

## French News.

(From our Paris Correspondent.)

**THE HANDY MAN.**—"Try the chemist, my dear," my old aunt used to say when I had searched the village shops without result; "he keeps everything no one else does. It may be a penny or two extra, but it is sure to be all right." That village chemist's shop, with its stationery and electroplated ware, tea, and tobacco, was recalled to my memory by the story of Cormier, the motorist, who returned on Sunday last from the tour round Europe. "Do you know, my motoring friends," he said, "what petroleum costs at Belgrade, Servia? The trifle of eighteenpence the litre; it's benzine, and one buys it at the chemist's."

**THE HYGIENIC COUNCIL OF PARIS**, which has existed for more than a century, owed its birth to the intelligent initiative of a pharmacist. The fact is perhaps not generally known that it was Claude Louis Cadet de Gassicourt, pharmacist at Paris, who proposed to M. Dubois, Prefect of Police, the formation of a body of chemists to be called the "Council of Salubrity." The name has been changed to "Council of Hygiene of the Seine Department." The original Council was composed of four members—Parmentier, Cadet de Gassicourt, Deyeux, and Huzard, the first three being pharmacists. The doctors were only added in 1807.

**THE GENERAL ASSOCIATION OF FRENCH PHARMACISTS**, which has just lost a very able President by the resignation of M. Riethe, deserves to be recorded as one of the interesting developments of the past century. It was founded in 1878, and consists of delegates from all the local Syndicates or Chambers of Discipline. Commenced on a small scale, it has grown steadily, and now includes almost every pharmaceutical syndicate in France. About 4,000 out of upwards of 9,000 pharmacists which France contains are now enrolled members. The dissentients are mostly small bodies, the only important one being the "South-western Federation." The voting is proportional, each delegate having one vote for every ten members of his Society. Paris has of course the largest voting-power, and Paris is looked upon by the southern provinces as "specialist" or unduly in favour of leniency towards proprietary medicines. Much time is lost at the annual meetings in fruitless discussion and profitless resolutions in favour of the abolition of proprietary medicines, but taking it altogether the existence of such a powerful united body cannot but be good for the interests of the pharmaceutical community. Some of the members, especially the impulsive southerners, believe that fierce discussion is better than peaceful apathy.

**A "PHARMACY MANAGERSHIP SWINDLE."**—M. Léon Boussignac is a pharmacy student from the South of France. He had come to Paris in answer to an advertisement worded thus: "Managership of a large pharmacy in the Opéra quarter offered to active young man with 60l. capital. Address. Ajus, 17 rue de Maubeuge." M. Boussignac had written to M. Ajus, who had invited him to Paris to conclude the affair. The reply said that M. Ajus's own man would meet him at the station and would be easily recognisable by a tiny tricolor flag he would hold in his hand. The young Southerner duly found the bearer of the patriotic emblem—a hall-porter in gold-braided livery—and was conducted by him to a neighbouring café, where M. Ajus himself was waiting. "Your face," said the latter, "is too honest for me to ask for references. I have a superb managership vacant. Have you the sixty pounds? We will place it at my bankers' as security"; and the three entered a large banking establishment, where M. Boussignac handed over the sum. M. Ajus left his hat, cane, and portfolio in the seat next to M. Boussignac while he went to fill up a form at a distant table. A few minutes afterwards the young Southerner was surprised to see M. Ajus pass bare-headed into the street. "He has forgotten the receipt-stamp," explained the gold-braided porter. "I will run after him and offer to fetch it for him"; and he followed his employer. M. Boussignac, after waiting two hours, realised the trick of which he had been the victim and his only resource was to lodge a complaint with the Commissary of Police.

## Coming Events.

Notices for insertion under this heading should be received by Editor on Wednesday of each week.

### Monday, February 6.

*Dewsbury Chemists' Association*, Church House, Church Street, at 8.45 P.M. Mr. F. P. Sargeant on "Precious Stones."

*Society of Chemical Industry, London Section*, Burlington House, Piccadilly, W., at 8 P.M. Mr. W. P. Draper, "The Theory of Dyeing": Part II.—Pseudo-solution and desolution; Mr. J. W. Lovibond on "The Fading of Inks and Pigments."

### Tuesday, February 7.

*Bradford Chemists' Association*, Royal Hotel, at 9 P.M. Ordinary meeting.

*Grimsby Chemists' Association*, Oberon Hotel, at 9 P.M. General meeting.

*Wakefield Chemists' Association*, Victoria Temperance Hotel, at 8.15 P.M. Annual general meeting.

*Bradford Chamber of Trades*, Great Northern Victoria Hotel. Annual dinner.

### Wednesday, February 8.

*Edinburgh Chemists', Assistants', and Apprentices' Association*. Visit to Inveresk Paper-mill.

*Manchester Pharmaceutical Association*, Victoria Hotel. Discussion on "Educational Matters." Opened by Mr. J. Rymer Young.

*London Chemists' Association*, St. Bride Institute, at 5.30 P.M. General Purposes Committee.

### Thursday, February 9.

*North Staffordshire Chemists' Association*, Roebuck Hotel. Stoke-on-Trent, at 7 P.M. Discussion on "Breaking Bulk" and "Stamped Proprietaries."

*Peterborough Chemists' Association*, Grand Hotel, at 4 P.M. Annual meeting, followed at 6.30 P.M. by the annual dinner, at which the President of the Pharmaceutical Society (Mr. R. A. Robinson), Mr. A. S. Campkin, Mr. W. S. Glyn-Jones, Mr. F. A. Rogers, and Mr. R. Bremridge will be present. Tickets, 4s. each, are obtainable from the Hon. Secretary, Mr. J. W. Hall, 6 Long Causeway.

*West Ham Chemists' Association*, London Tavern, Fenchurch Street, E.C., at 7 P.M. Annual dinner, followed by a smoking-concert. Mr. Ernest Gray, M.P., and Mr. Walter Hills are to be present. Tickets, 4s. 6d. each, may be had from Mr. F. Walter Gwinn, 143 Cann Hall Road, Leytonstone, N.E.

*Sheffield Pharmaceutical and Chemical Society*, Royal Victoria Hotel. Annual Chemists' Ball. Tickets, 7s. 6d. each (including supper), can be had from the Hon. Secretary, Mr. H. G. Williams, 118 The Moor, or any of the Stewards.

*Chemists' Assistants' Association*, 75, Newman Street, Oxford Street, W., at 9 P.M. Discussion.

*Hartlepool Chemists' Association*, Grand Hotel, West Hartlepool, at 8.30 P.M. General meeting.

### Friday, February 10.

*Plymouth, Devonport, and Stonehouse Chemists' Association*, 7 Whimble Street, Plymouth, at 9.30 P.M. Discussion on the Amended seventh clause and on the Federation circular.

### Saturday, February 11.

*Inter-Pharmacy Football League Matches*, Muter's v. London College, Square v. Westminster College (Wormholt Farm).

THE SOCIETY OF CHEMIST-OPTICIANS has arranged for a lantern-lecture at the Pharmaceutical Society's house, 17 Bloomsbury Square, W.C., on February 22, by Dr. J. McC. Ettles, M.D., on "How we See." The lecture is open to all chemists.

THE ANNUAL DINNER of the past and present students of the School of Pharmacy of the Pharmaceutical Society will take place on February 23, at 7.30 P.M., in the Balmoral Room at the Trocadero. Dr. Arthur Pearson Luff, B.Sc., F.R.C.S., M.R.C.S., will be in the chair. Tickets (price 5s.) can be had on application to Mr. S. V. Roberts and Mr. C. S. White, Hon. Secretaries of the Dinner Committee.

THE "CINDERELLA" DANCE arranged by the Chemists' Assistants' Association is to take place on Tuesday, February 14, in the Large Hall of the Portman Rooms (Baker Street entrance), at 7.30 P.M., and not on February 8 as announced. Tickets, 2s. 6d. each, may be obtained from the M.C.'s, Mr. R. D. Dixon, 4 Stockwell Park Walk, S.W., and Mr. A. H. Solomon, 75 Holland Road, W., and from the Hon. Secretaries, Mr. A. R. Arrowsmith, 4 Stratton Place, W., and Mr. A. Latrille, 48 Baker Street, W.



# Exchange Column—Bargains.

## TERMS.

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## FOR DISPOSAL.

### APPARATUS.

5-grain pill-machine for 24; will exchange for one or two grain ditto. BOWLING, Chemist, Pembroke Dock.

### BOOKS AND PERIODICALS.

150 years old Pharmacopoeia Supplement; what cash offer? "CURIOSITY," 52 Holmbrook Street, Homerton.

Offers Bentley's "Botany," complete; Muter's "Materia Medica"; Proctor's "Lectures"; Stuart's "Physics"; Southall's materia medica cabinet, complete. MILLS, 4 High Street, Exeter.

Attfield; Green, vols. I. and II.; Greenish, Glazebrook, "Light and Heat"; Newth, Kipping, Aldous, Everett; Wills "Volumetric Analysis," "Handbook Analysis"; Bower's "Botany." KNIGHT, Wincanton, Bath.

Witkoski's "Movable Atlas of Female Organs, Male Organs, and Gestation," 3 vols., 15s.; MacLaren's "Atlas of Venereal Diseases," 7s. 6d.; Thorington's "Refraction," 3s. 6d.; Cantley's "Infant Feeding," 2s. 6d. BELLI, Chemist, Wandsworth, S.W.

Wills's Minor books, "Vol. Analysis," &c., Southall's "Materia Medica," 5th edition, Roscoe's "Elementary Chemistry," Woodward's "Arithmetical Chemistry," B.P. 1885, Lothian's "Analytical Tables," Attfield's "Chemistry," 4th edition. FRASER, Maryburgh, Conon Bridge, N.B.

### DRUGS AND CHEMICALS.

For sale, 6 doz. 1-lb. jars finest English honey; cash offers; overstocked. HINDE, Chemist, Stoke Ferry.

Overstock.—2 lb. aspirin 1s. oz., 14s. lb.; 8 oz. urotropine, 1s. 2d. oz.; post free. EDWARD, 31 High Street, Sutton, London.

### OPTICAL AND PHOTOGRAPHIC.

No. 2 special bullet Kodak, nearly new; 4 double slides; half price. DODRIDGE, Romsey, Hants.

Leitz high-class microscope, coarse and fine adjustment, 2 eyepieces,  $\frac{3}{4}$  and  $\frac{1}{2}$  in. objectives, in case as new; £5. HALFORD, Chemist, Hockley, Birmingham.

What offers? One 30s. No. 1 Dalo camera; one 52s. 6d. No. 2 ditto; two 70s. No. 4 Panorams; one 42s. No. 2 Folding B.E.K.; two 50s. No. 4 B.E.K.; two 15s. No. 1 Pom-Poms; one 30s. ditto; one 27s. 6d. magic lantern, 500 slides, assorted subjects; all in perfect condition. LAWRENCE, Oban.

### PROPRIETARY ARTICLES.

Carriage Paid.—4 doz. 7 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. Keene's, 19s.; 4 doz. 7 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. Frog, 19s. PAYNE, Maidstone.

Surplus stock: 1 doz. Kaputine, 2 doz. Daisy powders; offers. 129/15, Office of this Paper.

What offer for ten doz. 1s. 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. Boyes' gout and rheumatic cure? PICKEN Bros. (Limited), Forest Gate.

Three doz. 6d., 1 doz. 1s. Rayne's Marking Ink Pencils, perfect, 14s. all. HIGGS, Chemist, Kingston, Surrey.

### SHOP FITTINGS.

Plate-glass shelves, and standards, for sale. WHITEHEAD, Chemist, Morecambe.

O'Brien's check receipt-giving till; new last year. What offers? BILLINGTON, Masbro', Rotherham.

Large pear-shaped carboy, 10s.; tincture-press, 7s. 6d.; carriage forward. TROUPE, Chemist, West Hartlepool.

Mahogany desk, double-hinged glass front, flap and lock desk, as Maw's fig. 2725, in good condition; £3 free on rail. YOUNG, Chemist, Liskeard.

What offers? Show stand, as Maw's fig. 2729; ditto, fig. 2730; also useful desk, 4 ft. high by 2 ft. 4 in. by 1 ft. 8 in. BARRETT, Chemist, Leamington.

Alterations Bargains.—All cost over doubt; equal to new; dispensing-screen, lobby case, 2 upright square counter-cases (silent sellers), 2 bent flat ditto, revolving-front toothbrush set. Stamped addressed envelope for particulars, 171 High Street, Walthamstow.

### MISCELLANEOUS.

Indiarubber hot-water bed, 72×36, for sale, cheap. APPLETON, Selby.

Offers wanted for water-bed, 72"×36". LASHAM, High Street, Romford.

Gas-engine; 8 h.p. Crossley; perfect condition. Apply, "J. S.," 36 Thurloe Place, South Kensington.

Oxygen-gas cylinders, complying with Government tests, and fittings. "OXYGEN," 1 St. Peter's Road, Croydon.

Surplus stock: 5,000 12 to 14-in. loofahs, 12s. gross delivered. BUTTERWORTH, Chemist, Moss Lane East, Manchester.

A No. 3 black autocopyist, foolscap size, cost 45s. new, 15s.; two specijars, gilt-dome lids, in good order, half Maw's price; also set shop-rounds, with gilt labels: What offers? R. ANDERSON, Chemist, Sunderland.

16 doz. 1s. insect-powder tins, perforated; battery in case, 2 dry cells, 3 electrodes; good condition; balance in case; Maw's 1925, scarcely used; also weights; Maw's 4-gr. pill-machine for 24, scarcely used; offers. DENT, Oulton Broad.

46 doz. 6d. and 9d. dressing-combs, aluminium; 6 doz. 1s. ditto, celluloid; 6 doz. ditto, rake; 5 doz. 9d. small-tooth combs, celluloid; 4 doz. 9d. ditto, vulcanite; 5 doz. 2d. balsamic plasters, leather, marginal; 10 doz. 6d. ditto; 12 doz. 1d. corn-paint; 6 doz. 1d. cement; 7 doz. 2d. ditto; 36 doz. 6d. carbolic tooth-powder, 2s. 6d. doz.; cash offers, or exchange for saleable patents. LAWRENCE, Oban.

## WANTED.

Quinine-pessary antique mould. Particulars and price, DAVIS, 89 Upper North Street, Poplar.

Gorham's "Extraction." Price to W. FROST WOOD, 132 Dame Agnes Street, Nottingham.

"Pharmaceutical Formulas"; latest edition, lowest price. DICKINS, Fore Street, Hertford.

Dental forceps and upper excising ditto. "STUDENT," 29 Clarence Place, Stonehouse, Plymouth.

Small emulsifier, about gallon; small still, slot weighing-machine. PAYNE, Chemist, Maidstone.

Fittings and utensils, second-hand; B.P. 1898. Price and particulars, 130/24, Office of this Paper.

Minor books; Chemists' books; name dates of publication. GOWER, Bookseller, Waterloo, Liverpool.

Liquid-soap, prepared by Muirene Co. or Mouilla Co.; state quantity and price. ATKINS, Chemist, Queen's Road, Bayswater.

About 120 good second-hand wide and n.m. shop rounds, recess labels. Price and particulars, A. BUSWELL, Chemist, Lutterworth.

A few horn scoops; also brass powder-folder, ointment-slab about 12 inches square; all cheap. WATTS, 596 Attercliffe Road, Sheffield.

A cheque-till with coin-register; Gledhill preferred; also 2 doz. 2-lb. ointment-jars, pink dome tops; in good condition. 125/66, Office of this Paper.

Secondhand fixtures, pill-machine, shop-rounds, glass and Wedgwood mortars; must be in good condition and cheap. WILLIAMS, Oongo House, Ynys Station, Cricieth.

### ADDRESS WANTED.

Mr. Thomas, Surgeon's Dispenser, buys cocain largely, daily. BENNETT, 59 Camberwell New Road.





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THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST is supplied regularly to every member of the following Societies:

Pharmaceutical Society of Ireland.  
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South African Pharmaceutical Society.  
Pharmaceutical Society of Natal.  
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Pharmaceutical Society of Tasmania.  
Pharmaceutical Society of Western Australia.  
Pharmaceutical Society of Trinidad.

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## Summary.

The subjoined paragraphs give the gist of the more important matters in this issue, with the object of showing at a glance what has happened during the week. See also "Contents" in the first column.

THE WISLICENUS MEMORIAL LECTURE is reported on p. 214.

THE method of working Mahler's calorimeter is described on p. 197.

IT IS CLAIMED that Surgeon Considen was the first distiller of eucalyptus (p. 220).

THREE OFFICIAL FORMULE for sheep-dip suitable for use in sheep-seab are printed on p. 204.

WE PRINT several letters regarding the question of the B.P. as a standard for drugs (p. 213).

SOME RESULTS of a research on cod-liver oil and other fish-liver oils are detailed on p. 197.

A RAT-CATCHER who sold arsenic by post has had to pay a fine of 40s., and 25s. costs (p. 210).

A PORTRAIT and some particulars of the career of the late Mr. John Bew are printed on p. 209.

THE PROVISIONAL PROGRAMME of the British Association meeting in South Africa is outlined on p. 188.

DINNERS in connection with chemists' associations have been held at Cheltenham, Exeter, and Newcastle (p. 206).

MR. A. E. HOBBS, Tunbridge Wells, has been co-opted a member of the Council of the Pharmaceutical Society (p. 191).

THERE were 15,743 names on the register of chemists and druggists and pharmaceutical chemists at the end of 1903 (p. 191).

EXAMPLES of how the regulation as to placing the formula on the label of proprietary articles works in Russia are given on p. 204.

AN INSTRUCTIVE BATCH of dispensing notes which were considered by the Edinburgh Assistants' Association will be found on p. 199.

MR. J. H. DINWOODIE, of Johannesburg, is the first President of the Transvaal Pharmacy Board. We reproduce his portrait on p. 221.

A CURIOUS CASE in which a Birmingham firm tried to make a chemist pay for more almanacks than he had ordered is reported on p. 211.

COCOAS prepared with alkali, and containing a large proportion of total ash-constituents, do not necessarily contain "added alkali" (p. 214).

A REVIEW of the disciplinary powers in Australasian Pharmacy Acts, which is of interest in Great Britain at the present time, is given on p. 220.

"XRAYSER" has something to say about Russian pharmacy and also emphasises Lord Avebury's aphorism as to not being easily discouraged (p. 201).

WE GIVE THE CORRECT VERSION of the action of the United Society of Chemists and Druggists in regard to the passing of the Pharmacy Act, 1868 (p. 202).

MR. PROSPER MARSDEN has lectured before the Liverpool Association on Moscow and its pharmacies (p. 196), and in London on a similar subject (p. 193).

THE ILFORD TRADERS have secured the two-thirds majority under the Shop-hours Act, and are appealing to the District Council to put the Act in force (p. 188).

FURTHER INFORMATION as to the progress of the New Zealand regulations in regard to labelling proprietary medicines with the formula is given on p. 219.

THE CHAIRMAN of the licensing session at Newcastle-under-Lyme alleges that there are cases where licences granted to chemists to sell wine have been much abused (p. 189).

THE LAW COMMITTEE of the Pharmaceutical Society are to consider if any steps can be taken better to protect the position of chemists under the Sale of Food and Drugs and other Acts (p. 192).

AT A SUCCESSFUL DINNER held in connection with the Newcastle Chemists' Association on February 1 a presentation was made to Mr. G. F. Merson, who has been connected with the Association for many years (p. 207).

AMONG articles that have advanced in the drug and chemical markets are opium, ipecac, saffron, and pure spike oil. Hyposulphite of soda is firm owing to the German coal-strike; phenazone and acetanilide may advance; crude ear-bolic acid, menthol, and peppermint oil are easier (p. 215).



## English News.

Local newspapers containing marked items of news interesting to the Trade are always welcomed by the Editor

### Brevities.

The Fulham Borough Council has decided to provide, at an estimated cost of 300*l.*, a laboratory in the Town Hall for the public analyst.

Harry Hewitt, who was charged this week at York with wilful murder, is described as a chemist. His name does not appear on the register of chemists and druggists.

At the inquest on an old lady at Dover this week, it was stated that the room in which she died was found to be so full of medicine-bottles and pill-boxes that there was no space for moving about.

Thomas Griffiths and his wife have been remanded on the charge of having in their possession counterfeit coin. One of the shops visited was that of Mr. J. Foster, chemist, 107 King Street, Hammersmith.

The Cromer Photographic Society, the formation of which we announced recently, is getting to work. The committee have settled many minor details and are to have the first general meeting on February 6.

Mr. J. Hinton Lake, chemist and druggist, of the Central Pharmacy, 41 High Street, Exeter, has reopened his establishment which has been temporarily closed owing to the construction of the electric tramways.

Considerable damage was done by fire at the chemical works of the United Alkali Co., Pollard Street, Ancoats, Manchester, on January 30. The fire was caused by friction during the melting of some ground sulphur.

A large company of photographers spent a pleasant evening at Salem School, Burnley, last week, listening to a lecture and demonstration by a representative of Kodak, Ltd. The lecture had been arranged by Mr. C. E. Dodsley, chemist and druggist.

The expenditure in the dispensing of the Kent and Canterbury Hospital was higher last year than in the previous twelve months, although there were fewer patients. This is attributed to the advance in antiseptic treatment and the unavoidable use of more expensive drugs.

William Evelyn Ford (21), described as a warrant clerk, of Halley Road, Forest Gate, has been remanded for medical examination on the charge of wilfully damaging a plate-glass window at 369 Romford Road to the extent of 4*l.* 10*s.*, the property of Mr. James Henry Hopper, chemist.

At Clerkenwell last week the hearing of the case against Messrs. Johnson Matthey & Co., Ltd., Hatton Garden, for permitting chemical refuse to flow into a sewer was completed, and Mr. D'Eyncourt imposed a fine of 15*l.*, with twenty guineas costs. The defendants said they were not aware of the leakage, which was a real loss to them.

Mr. William Brothers, of Prestwich, the managing director of Brothers' Chemical-manufacturing Co., Ltd., Rawtenstall, has patented a process for dealing with the waste heaps, principally composed of sulphate of lime, which are to be seen at many chemical-works. The process consists in recovering the sulphate of lime so that it can be used as a building-cement.

The Magistrates at West London and Bow Street on January 31 had each before them a charge of selling adulterated brandy. The ester-content was relied on by the analyst. The West London case was dismissed with five guineas costs against the Fulham Borough Council, but in the Bow Street case a fine of 40*s.* and 2*l.* 2*s.* costs was imposed.

The Postmaster-General announces that parcels are now accepted for transmission to Ecuador at the following rates of postage: Up to 3 lbs., 4*s.* 6*d.*; 3 lbs. to 7 lbs., 5*s.*; 7 lbs. to 11 lbs., 5*s.* 6*d.* Parcels for Ecuador must not measure more than 2 ft. in length, breadth, or depth, and must not exceed 4 ft. in length and girth combined. The system of insurance for parcels will not be extended, at present, to Ecuador. The rate of postage on parcels for Bolivia has been reduced to 3*s.* 6*d.* for each parcel not exceeding the *maximum* of 7 lbs. in weight.

### British Association.

The provisional arrangements for the meeting of the British Association, to be held this year at Cape Town, are as follows: The President for the year is Professor G. H. Darwin, F.R.S., and the Presidents of the various sections will be—Mathematics and Physics, Dr. Forsyth, F.R.S.; Chemistry, Mr. G. T. Beilby; Geology, Professor H. A. Miers, F.R.S.; Zoology, Mr. G. A. Boulenger, F.R.S.; Geography, Admiral Sir W. Wharton, F.R.S.; Economics, Rev. W. Cunningham; Engineering, Colonel Sir Colin Scott-Moncrieff; Anthropology, Dr. A. C. Haddon, F.R.S.; Physiology, Colonel D. Bruce, F.R.S.; Botany, Mr. H. Wager, F.R.S.; Educational Science, Sir Richard Jebb, M.P. Addresses in connection with the visit of the Association will be delivered at Cape Town, Durban, Pietermaritzburg, Johannesburg, Pretoria, Bloemfontein, Kimberley, and perhaps Bulawayo. The "official" guests, 200 in number, invited by the central committee of Cape Town, will include leading members of the Association and distinguished foreign representatives. A party of the visitors intend to make an expedition to the Victoria Falls.

### The Alcohol Committee.

A meeting of the Committee appointed to inquire into the use of duty-free alcohol for industrial purposes was held on January 31. The members present were Sir H. W. Primrose, K.C.B., C.S.I. (Chairman), the Hon. J. Scott Montagu, M.P., Sir William Holland, M.P., Dr. T. E. Thorpe, C.B., Dr. W. Somerville, Mr. L. D. Nicholson, and Mr. T. Tyrer. The witness examined was Professor C. V. Boys, F.R.S., representing the Automobile Club. The Committee met again on February 1, when Mr. G. Smith (representing Messrs. Nobel's Explosives Co., Ltd., Glasgow), Mr. Archibald Walker (of the firm of Archibald Walker & Co., Distillers, Liverpool and Limerick, and director of the Distillers' Co., Ltd., and the Vauxhall Methylating Co.), and Mr. R. F. Nicholson (Managing Director of Messrs. J. & W. Nicholson & Co., Ltd., St. John Street, E.C.) were examined.

### London County Council.

At the weekly meeting of the London County Council on January 31 the Main Drainage Committee reported that during the year ended December 31, 91,716,000 gallons of sewage had been treated, which involved the use of 23,248 tons of lime and 5,479 tons of proto-sulphate of iron. 2,529,500 tons of sludge was sent to sea.

The London County Council (General Purposes) Bill, 1905, seeks in Part V., Clause 22, power to enable the Council to make representation to the Local Government Board as to the manner in which the Sale of Food and Drugs Acts are administered within the county and to institute inquiries and make investigations. Dr. Thomas, medical officer of health for Stepney, objects to another authority as being unfair to tradesmen, in so far as inspection necessarily disturbs business and causes comment among customers. Dr. Sykes, of St. Pancras, also considers the powers unnecessary.

### Shop-hours Act.

The adjourned conference between the Council of the Bradford Chamber of Trades and specially appointed representatives of all the affiliated Associations was held on January 30 in the Royal Hotel, Bradford. The half-day holiday question having been settled at the last meeting in favour of Wednesday, the matter of evening closing-hours was now considered. This proved a much more difficult problem to solve. All the trades had made different recommendations, and there seemed to be no likelihood of common agreement. Mr. Marshall, who was present, with Alderman Dunn and Mr. B. Rogerson, to represent the Chemists' Association, strongly urged that each Association should be left to recommend its own closing-hours for the evenings; and this course was ultimately adopted, the Conference making no recommendation except that the latest hours should be 9.30 on Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday, ten o'clock on Friday, and eleven o'clock on Saturday.

The Early-closing Association, in conjunction with the Ilford Chamber of Trade, undertook in September last to canvass the Ilford traders for an eight-o'clock closing on Mondays, Tuesdays, and Wednesdays and one o'clock on Thursdays, in order to get the two-thirds majority required by the recently passed Shop-hours Act to enable the local authority to enforce it. At a full meeting of



the local Employers' Committee held on Monday afternoon last (Mr. W. Tupman presiding), Mr. Larking, who acted as Secretary, reported that the requisite two-thirds majority had been secured among drapers, grocers, provision-dealers, ironmongers, and oil and colour men. It was resolved to appeal at once to the Ilford Urban District Council to take the necessary steps.

#### Essentials of Progress.

Mr. David Howard, J.P., D.L., in distributing the prizes at the West Ham Technical Institute last week, remarked that he himself found the advantage of practical experience when he was young. Before he went to the Royal College of Chemistry he had been to the works at Stratford, and he knew what he wanted a great deal better than most of his fellows. Later on Mr. Howard said unless they as chemists were prepared to adapt themselves to new circumstances and new habits of thought, they could never make progress.

#### Tropical Medicine.

At a meeting of the Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine on February 1, Professor Boyce described some of the work done by the expedition sent out by Liverpool and other tropical schools. Attention was given to health problems at Bathurst, Konakry, and Freetown. At Bathurst they found that vigorous anti-mosquito measures had been undertaken, and the result was a very material improvement in the health both of Europeans and of natives. At Konakry, which was under French rule, despite the splendid system of general sanitation and the excellent water-supply, they found that malaria was, if anything, on the increase, because the old wells in which mosquitos bred had not been shut. Great improvements in the health of the people had resulted from the measures adopted at Freetown within the past few years, but works of sanitation, drainage, and water-supply would have to be undertaken. The removal of living-quarters from the seat of infection had been a means of reducing malaria among the Europeans, and he advocated the inauguration of an effort to enable the natives to take advantage of this precautionary measure.

#### Contracts.

The Wandsworth Public Health Committee has accepted (subject to sanction) the tender of Messrs. Dussek Bros. & Co. for the supply of disinfectants for one year from March 31 next, and the tender of the Formalin Hygienic Co., Ltd., for formalin tablets and solution for the same period.

#### Analysis in Nottingham.

In his report presented to the Nottingham County Council on February 1, the county analyst (Mr. Otto Hehner) stated that during the past quarter he had analysed 67 samples under the Food and Drugs Acts. These comprised 22 samples of milk, 19 of butter, 5 of spirits, 4 of pepper, 4 of Bland's pills, 2 of cheese, 2 of lard, 2 of malt vinegar, 2 of ground ginger, 2 of sweet spirit of nitre, 1 of coffee, 1 of castor oil, and 1 of Friar's balsam. Of the samples 63 were genuine, 1 of malt vinegar, 1 of spirits, and 2 of milk being adulterated.

#### Gold from Sea-water.

According to a London daily newspaper a scheme is on foot in this country to float a company for the purpose of extracting gold from sea-water. Sir William Ramsay is stated to have reported on the process, but particulars of his report are not given.

#### Hygienic Shaving.

Before long the scheme agreed upon between the Guild of Hairdressers and the Medical Officer of Health for the City of London will be in practical operation. The Guild has signified its acceptance of the suggestions made by the Medical Officer in his last communication. It now remains for the hairdressers to obtain from the Medical Officer a certificate stating that they have complied with the stipulated conditions. This certificate will be forwarded to the Guild, and registration will follow as a matter of course. It is said that in the City there is likelihood of registration being made direct, instead of through the intermediary of the Guild.

#### Theft Charge.

A draper's assistant, named Ronald Kennett, was remanded on a charge of stealing 10*l.* in cash from the depôt

at 167 Upper Street, Islington, of Boots' Cash Chemists, Ltd., of which his brother-in-law, Mr. Roberts, is manager. It was alleged by Roberts that after closing the shop on the evening of January 21 the sum of 10*l.*, which had been left in his desk, was stolen. Kennett was in the habit of frequenting the shop, and the detective who arrested him gave evidence that he then admitted the theft, stating that he had squandered the money in billiards and drinking.

#### Chemists' Water-supply.

It is proposed by the Torquay Town Council to raise the charge for water-supply to chemists from 5*s.* to 12*s.* per annum. This, our correspondent adds, should not be taken as a sign that more water enters into the composition of medicines than hitherto. Surgeries are to be rated at 10*s.* each, whilst dentists' spittoons (turbine) are to be charged at 10*s.* each per annum. The Borough has adopted a non-spitting by-law for outdoors now the indoor spitting arrangement is to be taxed. Photographers are likewise called upon to pay 20*s.* per annum.

#### Chemists' Wine-licences.

At the annual licensing sessions for the division of Pirehill North, which covers an extensive county area in North Staffs, on February 1, at Newcastle-under-Lyme Town Hall, the Chairman (Mr. R. C. Clive) said it had been brought to the notice of the Magistrates that in some cases, where licences had been granted to chemists with the object of enabling them to sell medicated wines for medicinal purposes, the licence-holders had abused their licence, and turned their houses into places for supplying drink and wines that were not medicated. That was beyond the spirit in which the licence had been granted, and at the next Brewster Sessions, twelve months hence, the renewal of the licences would be refused where they had been used for such a purpose. Later in the day Mr. J. G. K. Bywater, chemist, Audley, applied for a wine off-licence for his shop. Mr. T. B. Sproston appeared for the applicant, who said he would give an undertaking that he would not sell anything but medicated wines. There was, however, one wine which was not understood to be a medicated wine—Keystone wine, a ferruginous burgundy—that was not sold by publicans, and he should like to know if the licence would cover that wine. The Bench did not express an opinion upon the point. The Chairman, however, observed during the case that a doctor might order champagne for a patient. Mr. Sproston: The chemist could not sell it. Police-Superintendent Dodd produced a letter from Dr. Clifford, of Audley, who said that such a licence as that asked for was not required. The application was refused.

#### The Week's Poisonings.

Eight of the eleven fatal poisonings that have been recorded since our last issue have been suicidal. Two were accidental. Robert Dickman, a farm labourer at Culford, Suffolk, died after drinking a glass of home-brewed beer. At the inquest the county analyst stated that a sample of the beer contained 98 gr. of arsenic to the pint. The beer had been brewed in a barrel which had originally contained an arsenical weed-killer.—An overdose of chloral caused the death of David Hooper (33), a laboratory attendant at the Regent Street Polytechnic. He suffered from sleeplessness and his heart was in a weak state. Thomas Parr (57), a Plymouth confectioner, died from an overdose of laudanum. He was in the habit of taking the drug for insomnia.—Liquor iodi fortis was taken by Abraham Harris (52), a retired publican, while he was in hospital at Dudley. The bottle containing the iodine was left within his reach by a nurse who had been instructed to paint his chest with it.—Laudanum was taken by two suicides under the influence of drink: by Stephen Gardener (50), a Midland engine-driver of Long Eaton, and by Henry Haworth (63), a weaver of Oswaldtwistle, Lancashire.—Nicotine insecticide caused the death of Turner Whittell (33), a gardener at Rushmere, near Ipswich. He was found in a greenhouse with a bottle of the nicotine near him. The inquest was twice adjourned, but the Coroner said that all the circumstances pointed to suicide.—Oxalic acid was taken by James Davison (55), an ex-soldier living in Fullwood Rents, Holborn.—Henry Radford (50), a pensionless ex-civil servant of Wandsworth, took potassium cyanide after vainly seeking work for two years. Mr. John W. Woods, chemist, Barmouth



Road, S.W., said the deceased came to him and showed him a piece of a white substance weighing about 80 gr. and asked him to make it into pellets or tablets. Witness said that he had not a tablet-machine and asked what it was. The man told him it was cyanide of potassium and said he was going to take it, whereupon witness told him he would be a fool if he did and warned a policeman who was with the man that he had a deadly poison.—A working jeweller at Fareham, Hants, Edward Hoffman (59), committed suicide by prussic acid.

## Irish News.

Local newspapers containing marked items of news interesting to the Trade are always welcomed by the Editor.

### The New Calendar.

We have received a copy of the calendar of the Pharmaceutical Society of Ireland, a cloth-bound volume of 226 pages, which contains in convenient sequence all the official information pertaining to the Irish profession of pharmacy and the Irish drug-trade. The Pharmacy Act (Ireland), 1875, the Amendment Act of 1890, the Statute Law Revision (No. 2) Act of 1893, the Arsenic Act, and the Sale of Poisons (Ireland) Act are reprinted at length. The Council regulations—examination and otherwise—are given, followed by lists of pharmaceutical chemists, registered druggists, and members of the Pharmaceutical Society of Ireland. The volume contains information of value to many besides members of the trade in Ireland. The published price of the cloth-bound edition is two shillings.

### Personal.

Mr. G. D. Beggs, pharmaceutical chemist, ex-President of the Pharmaceutical Society of Ireland, was on January 23 unanimously re-elected Vice-Chairman of the Dalkey Urban Council.

Alderman Sir James H. Haslett, M.P., head of the firm of J. & J. Haslett & Co., chemists and druggists, North Street, Belfast, who has been seriously ill for some weeks, is recovering, and is able to visit his offices occasionally.

### The Derry Fire.

Further particulars of the fire on the premises of Messrs. Maxwell & Greer, chemists and druggists, of Derry, are to hand (see *C. & D.*, January 28, p. 109). A good many barrels of petroleum and other oils were got out safely into the street, but the warehouse was practically destroyed, goods uninjured by the fire being spoilt by water. The damage is put down at between 4,000*l.* and 5,000*l.*, but is stated to be covered by insurance.

### A Brave Act.

On the morning of January 29, while service was being held in the parish church of Keady, co. Armagh, an alarm of fire was raised. The rector marched his congregation out in single file. Credit for the speedy suppression of the conflagration was mainly due to the bravery of Mr. A. T. L. Proctor, druggist, who climbed to the burning roof and removed a few slates. Then, assisted by willing hands, he applied bucketfuls of water to the seat of the fire, and succeeded in extinguishing it.

### Chemists' and Druggists' Society, Ireland.

The annual business meeting will be held at 10 Garfield Chambers, Royal Avenue, Belfast, on February 15 at 11 A.M., to receive Treasurer's and Secretary's Reports for 1904, to elect officers and committee for 1905, and transact such other business as may arise. The Secretary asks us also to notify that the annual social is to be held on same evening, in the Avenue Hall, Lower Garfield Street, tea at 7.30. Tickets, 1*s.* each, can be had on application.

### The Doctor on Empties.

In reference to the recent letter of Messrs. Hunt & Co. to the Trim Board of Guardians complaining that the medicine empties had not been returned, Dr. J. W. Greene reports to the latter body that up to the present he has packed and returned all empties quarterly, paying the carriage himself. Dr. Greene adds: "Messrs. Hunt have never taken the trouble to acknowledge their receipt nor have they offered to recoup me the charges for cartage. Kindly inform them that I have now a case ready packed, and ask them to make arrangements for conveying it to the railway, as I shall go

to no more expense on their behalf. Also please request them to pay for cartage of drugs from railway to dispensaries, as they are bound to deliver them free. I regret I cannot fill up the form you sent me, as I had already packed empties and closed case before I received it." The Guardians stated that the contractors were bound to defray the carriage, and they decided to act on Dr. Greene's suggestion.

## Scotch News.

Local newspapers containing marked items of news interesting to the Trade are always welcomed by the Editor.

### Poisoning.

William Young (36), an Edinburgh carter, died in the infirmary there last week from the effects of laudanum taken intentionally.

### Business Changes.

Mr. W. J. Moffat, chemist and druggist, has acquired the branch business of Mr. George Mackie at 741 Pollokshaw Road, Glasgow.

The business of Mr. William Ross, chemist, 24 Bank Street, Galashiels, has been transferred, as from December 31, 1904, to Mr. James Henry, chemist and druggist, Galashiels, who will carry it on under the name of "William Ross."

### Presentation.

Mr. James Fernie, chemist and druggist, of Newport-on-Tay, Fife, who is on the eve of departure for Pietermaritzburg, has been presented with a gold chain by the Newport Camera Club, as a mark of appreciation of the excellent work he has done as Secretary of the Club.

### Personal.

Mr. James C. Irvine, Ph.D., D.Sc., has been appointed lecturer in organic chemistry in the United College, St. Andrews. This lectureship has just been instituted.

Mr. James Ford, chemist and druggist, Kirriemuir, has been appointed a Justice of the Peace for Forfarshire, on the recommendation of the Earl of Strathmore.

### Glasgow Notes.

The business barometer is again very low, but no storm is anticipated.

Several local chemists are preparing for the approaching photographic season by having dark-rooms fitted up provided with enlarging apparatus.

The local Associations' Special Early-closing Commission, which is literally a roving one, is at work on the South Side, roping in the estrays of the herd.

The Town Council have decided that a *prima facie* case has been established for early closing, and arrangements are being made for a systematic *plébiscite* of the different trades. Opposition to the proposed adoption of the Act continues to develop and extend.

A correspondent, dealing with the early history of Buchanan Street, quotes freely from the late Daniel Frazer's well-known book on the subject, and in particular from Mr. Frazer's description, as an eye-witness, of the Chartist procession down Buchanan Street in 1848.

The capsule-making industry, which has long had a "local habitation and a name" in Glasgow, is being considerably developed. Mr. Joseph Gates, Shamrock Street, a brother of Mr. Calvin Gates, pharmaceutical chemist, St. George's Road, has acquired all the most modern appliances for capsule-making, including plant for the manufacture of Blaud's pill-mass in an atmosphere of carbon dioxide.

The announcement that a company is about to be formed to work Sir William Ramsay's process for the extraction of gold from sea-water reminds a veteran Glasgow chemist of a wild-cat scheme of one of his former apprentices who died young. This ingenious contriver devised a method of recovering iodine from Clyde water. The experiments were carried on in the back shop at the employer's expense. When one morning the experimentalist found a large deposit of iodoform in one of his solutions, he went nearly mad with joy; but alas! he was speedily disillusioned, upon learning that the solution had been "salted" by a fellow-apprentice.



# Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain.

## COUNCIL-MEETING.

**T**HE chief points of interest at the Council-meeting on Wednesday were: The presentation of the Registrar's annual report, in which the state of the registers and membership were given, as well as a summary of the proceedings instituted under the Pharmacy Acts; the granting of 115*l.* from the Benevolent Fund; the co-option of Mr. A. E. Hobbs, Tunbridge Wells, to the vacant chair on the Council; the report of the Parliamentary Committee, in which the Singapore Ordinance and the Medical Acts Amendment Bill were mentioned; a resolution by the President as to prosecutions under the Sale of Food and Drugs Acts; the organisation of the Organising Committee; and the *obiter dictum* of Mr. Carteighe in the discussion on organisation that it is not etiquette of a councillor to accept an invitation for a pharmaceutical function at which the President is to be present.

At the meeting held on February 1, at 16 Bloomsbury Square, W.C., there were present the President (Mr. R. A. Robinson), Vice-President (Mr. J. R. Young), Treasurer (Mr. Walter Hills), and Messrs. Atkins, Campkin, Carteighe, Cooper, Cross, Currie, Gibson, Gifford, Hagon, Harrington, Harrison, Newsholme, Park, Southall, Storrar, Symes, and Wootton.

The proceedings opened with the reading of the minutes of the previous meeting, the election of student-associates and members, and the restoration of names to the register.

### THE NEXT ELECTION.

It was then announced that the following members of the Council will retire in May next: M. Carteighe, J. F. Harrington, J. Harrison, C. J. Park, A. Southall, J. R. Young. To these should also be added the member co-opted in place of Mr. Glyn-Jones.

### THE ANNUAL REPORT

showed that on December 31 there were 15,743 names on the register, compared with 15,577 at the corresponding period of 1903—13,619 chemists and druggists and 2,124 pharmaceutical chemists. In regard to the annual subscribers to the Society the number of members on December 31 stood at 5,725, and of student-associates 526, against 589 in 1903. Life compounders were 484. An interesting feature of the report was the intimation that 459 cases of alleged infringement of the Pharmacy Act, 1868, were investigated during 1904, and proceedings instituted in 150 cases. It appears also that the erasures from the registers during the year were 483, additions 670, and alterations in addresses 1,420.

Mr. HAGON pointed out that in one of the prosecutions a chemist paid a penalty for using the letters M.P.S. when he was not a member of the Society. This, he thought, was either due to the offence being uncommon or else to little notice being taken of offenders. It was very desirable to conserve the title M.P.S., and he hoped divisional secretaries would be asked to report infringements.

### FINANCE REPORT.

Mr. HARRINGTON moved the adoption of the report of the Finance Committee, the following being the balances shown on the report:

	£	s.	d.
General Fund account ... ..	708	19	7
Benevolent Fund—			
Current account ... ..	550	14	6
Donation account ... ..	1	3	6
Orphan account ... ..	37	16	9

while the following items, amounting to 2,197*l.* 16*s.* 6*d.*, were submitted for payment:

	£	s.	d.
On behalf of the "Journal" ... ..	408	10	2
Sundries ... ..	130	16	8
House ... ..	134	2	10
Law charges ... ..	150	4	7
Stationery, etc. ... ..	17	12	9

	£	s.	d.
Library ... ..	10	4	6
Current expenses ... ..	350	0	0
Salaries, etc. ... ..	286	5	0
School and examination ... ..	710	1	0

Mr. Harrington mentioned that since the report had been made up an additional sum of 11*s.* 6*d.* had been received from the Chemists' Assistants' Association, the proceeds of a collection at the last social evening. "The money collected in this way," said Mr. Harrington, "amounts to quite a substantial sum in the course of the year."

The report was adopted.

### BENEVOLENT FUND.

The report of the Benevolent Fund Committee having been considered in committee,

Mr. Atkins moved its adoption. The work had been somewhat heavy, as fourteen cases were dealt with and grants made of 115*l.* to nine applicants. Many of the sums were again in the nature of minor annuities. Mr. Atkins once more drew attention to the need of applications for relief being repeated each year and also to the need for full and frank details of the cases to be given on the forms supplied. A case in which the liability of the Fund to contribute to the support of a pauper lunatic arose during the month, the Chairman of the committee explaining that the Fund was not called upon to relieve the rates. The person about whom the discussion arose has, however, since died.

The report was adopted.

### NEW COUNCILLOR.

The TREASURER moved that Mr. Alfred Ernest Hobbs, of Tunbridge Wells, be co-opted in place of Mr. Glyn-Jones, retired. He (Mr. Hills) had known Mr. Hobbs since 1890 as an accomplished pharmacist. Mr. Hobbs has had large experience in Bournemouth, Tunbridge Wells, and London, and is at present President of the Tunbridge Wells Chemists' Association. He had done yeoman's service for the Society, and the councillors would find him an agreeable personality. Tunbridge Wells is only thirty-five miles from London, and on account of the celerity and punctuality of the southern lines—(laughter)—the town may almost be regarded as a London suburb.



MR. ALFRED E. HOBBS.

Mr. ATKINS seconded, and said he had known Mr. Hobbs at Bournemouth and Tunbridge Wells. He was exceedingly loyal to the Society, and often visited the Square doing routine work. He would prove to be a very valuable colleague, but it was only fair to add that in co-opting Mr. Hobbs to the chair vacated by Mr. Glyn-Jones they were passing on a liability to be faced next April.

Mr. GIBSON supported, as did

Mr. CARTEIGHE, the latter emphasizing that Mr. Hobbs is young, enthusiastic, and a good fellow, the three qualifications for a councillor. He (Mr. Carteighe) hoped the members would not exercise their undoubted privilege of rejecting Mr. Hobbs at the election in May. It is distressing to pharmacy that those whom the Council select as quite fitted for the position should be rejected at the next election.

The PRESIDENT supported the co-option, Mr. Hobbs being a neighbour of his at Tunbridge Wells.

The co-option was then unanimously agreed to.

### THE L., M., S., AND H. COMMITTEE.

The TREASURER moved the adoption of the report of the Library, Museum, School, and House Committee, the chief items of which were approval of Messrs. Parkinson's account for 63*l.* 6*s.* for work done during the month, and another account for 30*l.* 17*s.* 9*d.* for electrically lighting the histological laboratory. The account of Messrs. Brown & Co. for fitting up the pharmaceutical laboratory, amounting to 250*l.*, was also recommended to be paid.

During the reading of the items,

Dr. SYMES asked that particulars of the expenditure be



appended to the at present bald statements in the report, so that the councillors could be in a position to check the accounts by the estimates.

The report was adopted.

#### PARLIAMENTARY COMMITTEE.

The report of this committee was as follows :

1. The Secretary reported that in accordance with the instructions of the committee, he had been to the Colonial Office respecting the Straits Settlements Ordinance regulating the Sale of Morphine. He was informed by one of the Assistant Under-Secretaries that the person complaining of the provisions of the Ordinance should have addressed his objections to the Governor for transmission to the Colonial Office, and he suggested that that course should now be taken. He also undertook to submit the Ordinance for the observations of the Council as soon as it was received by his Department.

The Secretary reported that he had therefore written to the complainant, and suggested his taking this course without delay.

It was subsequently ascertained that the Ordinance had already been approved by the Government, but the Colonial Office intimated that if the Pharmaceutical Society wish to make any criticisms or observations upon it in the light of the complaint received from Singapore, such communication would be carefully considered, and, if desired, sent on to the Governor.

The Secretary also reported that he had, as requested by the committee at its last meeting, had an interview with Mr. Smith Whitaker, the Organising Secretary of the Medico-Political Committee of the British Medical Association, on the subject of proposed legislation by that Association. Mr. Smith Whitaker stated that every care had been taken in drafting their Bill to prevent interference with the legitimate practice of Pharmacy, and he believed that object had been secured. Nevertheless, if the Council of the Pharmaceutical Society were of opinion that the practice of Pharmacy was threatened by any of the provisions of the Bill, he was quite sure that his Association would give due attention to any representation that reached him on the subject. Mr. Smith Whitaker further offered to attend a meeting of the Council or of the Parliamentary Committee of this Society, for consultation, if it were thought desirable, but of course he could not promise to come to any agreement, nor could he pledge his Association.

2. The committee agreed that in regard to the Straits Settlements Morphine Ordinance a letter of protest should be officially addressed to the Secretary of State for the Colonies.

3. In regard to the Medical Acts Amendment Bill the committee authorised the Chairman and the President to receive Mr. Smith Whitaker on behalf of the Committee.

4. The question of the procedure to be adopted in connection with the introduction of the Pharmacy Amendment Bill, 1905, was discussed, and it was resolved to ask Mr. Lough and the other members of Parliament who supported last year's Bill to again accord their assistance in bringing in the measure.

Mr. WOOTTON, as Chairman of the committee, moved the adoption of the report, and Dr. SYMES seconded; Mr. GIFFORD expressing approval of the conference between the medical profession and the Parliamentary Committee.

The report was adopted.

#### EXAMINERS

for the Pereira competition and Council prizes in April were appointed, those chosen being Professor Potter, Professor Wynn, and Mr. Marsden.

#### PROTECTION OF MEMBERS.

The PRESIDENT said the General Purposes Committee had no special report to make, but in response to representations that had been made as to the desirability of steps being taken further to protect members against the unjust enforcement of various Acts of Parliament he moved the following resolution :

That it be referred to the Law Committee to consider and report as to whether any steps can be taken better to protect the position of our members from any injustice by the manner in which the Sale of Food and Drugs Acts and other Acts affecting chemists are sometimes enforced, and also whether the Society should convene a conference, including medical officers of health, public analysts, and other persons concerned, in order to consider, *inter alia*, the present official tests as to purity, etc., and generally to consider and report upon the whole subject.

The President further explained that a recent case under the Sale of Food and Drugs Acts had indicated the need

of steps being taken to protect if possible a trader who at present may be, and in the present case was, put to considerable expense although proved to be innocent.

Mr. CARTEIGHE seconded, and

Mr. HARRISON said it was entirely in keeping with the charter that the Society should take steps to protect the interests of the members. There is undoubtedly at present considerable anxiety as to the administration of the Sale of Food and Drugs Acts. The case referred to by the President well illustrated the saying that "the next worst thing to losing a law case is to win one." It was not intended to protect men who deliberately put themselves within the reach of the law, but that large body of men who are undoubtedly innocent.

Mr. COOPER approved of helping members in this way, mentioning that the Chemists' Defence Association, which has done excellent work, only defends a man up to 10*l.*, and could not deal with a case such as had been referred to by the President.

Dr. SYMES pointed out that it was only proposed to adopt preventive means. No one could charge the Society with trying to cover adulteration or with desiring greater latitude in that direction. Innocent persons have often to suffer injustice, and the public do not always discriminate between a charge and a conviction.

Mr. CAMPKIN—who was announced by the President as the Mayor of Cambridge—said he was sure the decision to consider the matter would be welcomed in all parts of the country. The Society would be stepping aside for the moment from the scientific to the commercial side of the calling. It had been often asserted that the Society exists only for the scientific side of pharmacy, and he was sure that if it could be shown that an interest is taken in the commercial side it would cement the bonds between chemists and the Society.

Mr. WOOTTON, anxious to support the proposal, felt that the wording of the resolution was too wide. Why should not the reference be solely to the Sale of Food and Drugs Acts? As regards the proposed conference with other authorities, he could not help thinking that it would be better for the Society to act by itself instead of being possibly hampered by having to act with other bodies.

The TREASURER said nothing in the nature of a defence was proposed, information only being sought. It was in the latter case that scientific knowledge could be brought to bear in aiding the authorities in meeting difficulties that arise. He hoped the Society would consult with other bodies, as he felt such a conference would have beneficial results to all concerned.

Mr. CROSS said it was not the first time this class of action had been taken by the Council. A previous inquiry did not end in anything being done but as the present was a more general inquiry more good may result.

The PRESIDENT explained that his object in not limiting the inquiry to the Sale of Food and Drugs Acts was that similar Acts, such as the Merchandise-marks Act, could be considered.

Mr. WOOTTON : I would have preferred a special reference. The resolution was then put and carried.

#### ORGANISATION.

The report of the Organisation Committee, read by the SECRETARY, referred to visits that had been paid to Huddersfield, Staffordshire, and Halifax, and to a draft plan of procedure that had been furnished to the Committee. This scheme, which divides England and Wales into eight administrative districts, and provides for suitable officers to form connecting links between the Council and the divisional secretaries and for meetings to be held in the provinces and London, was not adopted, but is to be taken as a working basis. The committee did not wish to lay down any hard-and-fast rules. The Finance Committee were asked to make a grant of 100*l.* towards prospective expenses, as it is proposed to keep the accounts separately. The same committee dealt with the suggestion from the Federation of Chemists' Associations that divisional secretaries should again be authorised to collect subscriptions. This matter has been dealt with before in THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST in communications from the Federation.

The PRESIDENT hoped the steps taken by the Organisation Committee would be satisfactory. It was most useful work



to give correct information as to the work of the Society. Divisional secretaries are not debarred from collecting subscriptions, but the present method of receiving subscriptions direct at the office is preferable from the point of view of quickness and regularity.

Mr. HARRISON noted that a member of the committee was to be sent to a divisional meeting; was that intended? It seemed that it would be placing a lot of work on the committee, and that possibly some of the councillors could undertake some of the duties.

The PRESIDENT confessed that he found the duties a little fatiguing, but he desired to do the work if he possibly could.

Mr. CARTEIGHE sympathised with the views expressed, but said the committee was framed so that it could act somewhat autocratically. There are certain functions that the President must attend in his official capacity. He (the speaker) desired also to remind country members who extended their invitations to sometimes all the members of the Council, that the President amply and fully represents the Council in the country. It is not quite orthodox for members of the Council to accept an invitation when the President is to be present. He (the speaker) appreciated to the full the intended hospitality, but the desire to get a lot of councillors present leads to competition among the Societies.

Mr. CAMPKIN entirely agreed with Mr. Carteighe, and said it is a waste of power to ask more than one councillor. Each should consider himself a pharmaceutical missionary. He suggested that the nearest councillor to the town where the meeting was to be held should undertake duty in that particular district—the President, however, being liable to be called anywhere. There should be no lesser luminary to accompany him.

Mr. GIFFORD thought the committee had justified its existence, and that the momentum impelling the committee was of a sort that would not soon be exhausted.

#### EXAMINATION AND EDUCATION.

The VICE-PRESIDENT said that although he had no report to present from the Examination and Education Committee, he had a statement to make that a meeting had been held at which an extremely useful discussion on the question of teaching pharmacy subjects in universities had taken place. The advantages of issuing parchment diplomas was considered, and it was decided that as the chief fault is of the ink fading, the Secretary should be instructed to see if he could obtain better ink.

The Seal of the Society was ordered to be affixed to an agreement respecting the use of the mutual wall between 34 and 36 York Place, Edinburgh.

#### LETTERS

of acknowledgment were received from the representatives of the late Edward Evans, Charles Maw, and T. C. W. Martin.

A Christmas card had also been received from the Natal Pharmaceutical Society.

Permission to photograph the mortar in the Council-room was granted to a gentleman who purposes writing an article on old mortars.

The General Secretaries of the British Association for the Advancement of Science wrote directing attention to the forthcoming meeting of the Association to be held in South Africa during August and September, and asking that arrangements might be made to postpone the Autumn Examinations and other engagements so that members of the Boards of Examiners and others might have an opportunity of attending the meeting.

The Sheffield Pharmaceutical and Chemical Society conveyed a resolution in favour of the Pharmacy Bill as amended by the new Clause 7.

The Tunbridge Wells and District Chemists' Association sent a resolution that the restrictions on the sale of poisons imposed by the Pharmacy Act, 1868, should be conformed to in their entirety by all registered chemists, and requesting the Council of the Pharmaceutical Society to give such guidance in this matter as may be necessary from time to time to ensure uniformity of practice.

The Pharmaceutical Society of New South Wales wrote stating that they were considering the issue of the Australian Formulary, and hearing that the Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain are about to issue a Formulary would like to have an idea of the cost. The Society (of N.S.W.), the letter proceeded, are not a wealthy body, but as 1,500 copies

would be required they trusted the Pharmaceutical Society would see their way to selling the books at cost-price.

The TREASURER: Are they referring to the Compendium or the Formulary?

The PRESIDENT: It must be the Compendium, as the letter refers to the book the Society are about to issue.

The Nottingham Chemists' Association sent a resolution regretting that Clause 7 of the 1904 Pharmacy Bill had not been retained, and promising to give hearty support to the Society in its endeavours to reserve the titles to qualified chemists. The resolution further dealt with the division of the Minor (approved), the curriculum (opposed), and an extension of the schedule of active medicines.

Mr. CROSS: Should I be in order in suggesting that the President be sent down to Nottingham?

The PRESIDENT: You would be in order, but I have been there. (Laughter.)

The London Chemists' Association pointed out the injustice to chemists in having to bear the costs of defences under the Sale of Food and Drugs Acts.

The PRESIDENT: That is the question which the Law Committee are to consider.

An invitation for the Society to be represented at the Medical Congress in Lisbon in 1905 was referred to the House Committee.

Another communication from the London Chemists' Association expressed gratification at the reconstruction of Clause 7.

#### AN EXPLANATION.

Mr. CARTEIGHE asked to be allowed to make a personal explanation in regard to some remarks he made at the previous meeting about Dr. Balfour Marshall's report on the examinations in Scotland. The report did not convey the impression he intended. When he said that Dr. Balfour Marshall had "doubtless been assisted by the staff" in the compilation of his report, he wished to infer that the Visitor had consulted the necessary books to obtain his figures. He (the speaker) had been told that another impression had been conveyed, and he desired to say that he approved of every detail in the admirable report. It would be of great service to the Society in considering the questions of examination and education.

This concluded the public business.

#### AFTERNOON MEETING.

On Friday afternoon, January 27, a meeting of the Society was held, under the presidency of Mr. R. A. Robinson, when two papers were read. The first, by Professor A. W. CROSSLEY, was entitled "Pharmaceutical Regulations in Germany," and dealt with the new regulations for the education of pharmacists which came into force last October. Under the new course of study a really successful student will be twenty-nine years of age before he can begin to practise as an *apotheker* on his own account. The second paper was by Mr. PROSPER H. MARSDEN, on "The Laws Relating to the Practice of Pharmacy in Russia," in which a very rosy view was given of the practice of pharmacy in that country. Once a concession has been obtained to open an *apteka*, the pharmacist's fortune is assured, but obtaining a concession is a tedious process, and has to take place according to definite rules. Mr. Marsden, in the course of a visit to Russia, went over the pharmacy of Mr. Vladimir Karlovitch Ferrein at Moscow, and obtained much of his information from that source.

A short discussion followed the reading of the papers, during which Mr. R. A. ROBINSON, jun., said that notwithstanding the fact that pharmacy is a monopoly in Germany and Russia, poorer prices are obtained for dispensing. Mr. CARTEIGHE proposed a vote of thanks to the lecturers, emphasising the remark of Professor Crossley that no candidate is allowed more than two attempts for the qualifying examination in Germany. Mr. WALTER HILLS seconded the vote of thanks, and Mr. A. C. WOOTTON said the state of pharmacy appeared from Professor Crossley's paper to be ideal in Germany, but he noticed that the pharmaceutical journals of that country were nearly filled with suggestions and schemes of reform. Professor CROSSLEY, in reply, said that the system of education in Germany is as good as it can be, but in England as bad as it can be. Mr. MARSDEN also replied, explaining some photographs and labels that were before the meeting.

Tea was afterwards served in the examination-hall.



## Winter Session.

### Irish Chemists' Assistants' and Apprentices' Association.

THE usual weekly meeting of this Association was held on January 27, in the Nelson Café, 33 Lower Sackville Street, Dublin. The President (Mr. Edgar B. Aplin) was in the chair. The chief business related to the arrangements for the annual dinner on February 4.

### Manchester and North of England Optical Society.

AT a meeting of this Society at the Albion Hotel, Piccadilly, Manchester, on February 1, "Optical Legislation" was the subject discussed, and a conversation took place as to the proposed title of opticians. Finally, it was resolved to approve of the word "Optologist." Mr. Slater said, while not objecting to the word "Optologist," he should move at the next meeting of the General Board of Opticians in London that the word "Optist" be adopted.

### Barnsley Chemists' Association.

THE monthly meeting of the above Association was held on January 26, at the Royal Hotel, Barnsley.

Mr. Arthur Wright was elected a member of the Association.

#### BREAKING BULK.

In reply to a communication from the Secretary of the Federation of Local Pharmaceutical Associations on the question of breaking bulk of stamped packages of patent medicines, the Secretary was instructed to reply.

1. That the practice of breaking bulk of stamped packages is detrimental to the interests of chemists and druggists.
2. That we favour the breaking of bulk of stamped medicines only in the case of making up physicians' prescriptions.
3. That we consider it advisable for the Executive of the Federation to approach the Inland Revenue authorities with a view to bringing about the discontinuance of the practice or to arrive at some understanding as to cases of illegality.

### Torquay Chemists' Association.

A MEETING of this Association was held on January 26, for the purpose of hearing a lecture upon

#### GERM-LIFE

by Mr. Ernest Quant. Mr. Rawling presided over a fairly good attendance, which included Messrs. Bourne (Hon. Secretary), Knight, Ness, Sloman, Horner, Douglas, and Newlyn. The lecture was a most interesting one, and proved Mr. Quant to be a master of his subject. He described the general characteristics of bacteria, such as size, shape, colour, mode of reproduction, and the work they perform in the world of nature as sanitary agents and providers of food for higher vegetation. The methods employed by bacteriologists for obtaining pure cultures and to distinguish the more important organisms were also described. A vote of thanks was passed, and Mr. Quant promised to return to the subject in a future lecture.

### Burnley Chemists' Association.

A MEETING was held at the Empress Hotel on Thursday evening, January 26. Mr. J. Brown presided in the early part of the meeting, then Mr. J. A. Barlow, the President.

Further progress was made with the arrangements respecting a lecture by a representative of Messrs. Parke, Davis & Co. in March. It was decided to approach the officers of the local Medical Association with a view to securing the presence of a number of medical men at the meeting.

#### REGISTRATION OF OPTICIANS.

Mr. Hirst (Secretary) submitted a letter from the Society of Chemist-opticians urging the claims of the Society upon chemists. Mr. N. O. Coates referred to the formation of the Central Board, which, he said, in view of the proposed legislation, meant business. Mr. Barlow asked how the proposed registration would affect watchmakers. Mr. Coates said they would have to go on the register. Mr. Hirst remarked that chemists who got on the register would

get out of certain examinations, which they would not be able to do later. Mr. Barlow mentioned that some medical men supply people with spectacles. Mr. Brown said they are supplying a good many other things besides, such as enemas and even cotton-wool. Mr. Crook thought this too bad. The subject then dropped.

### Nottingham Chemists' Association.

AT a meeting of this Association on January 25, Mr. A. Eberlin (Vice-President) in the chair, Mr. A. E. Beilby gave an address on

#### LEGISLATION AND THE DRUG-TRADE.

He reviewed the events that led to the passing of the Pharmacy Acts, and went on to consider how best to remedy the company loophole that has been found to exist in the 1868 Act. He did not agree with the abandonment of the Clause 7 in the 1904 Pharmacy Bill, as it was in harmony with the spirit of the Pharmacy Act, 1868, which insisted upon the qualification of the proprietor. The President of the Pharmaceutical Society, referring to the new clause, said it is better to have half a loaf than no bread, a remark which would be true if it was a wheat loaf and not a plaster-of-Paris imitation. The provision that one director only should be qualified is of no value whatever to the trade, and makes the clause merely one to legalise companies. The registering of shops and assistants is practically giving up the idea of qualified proprietorship and paving the way for any number of shops being managed by qualified assistants with only one qualified director. No doubt the intention of bringing the drug-stores into line and legalising their position is one which will be useful to the stores and the public, but it is not one in which chemists and druggists can be expected to take a very keen interest, and is not a remedy for the evils from which the trade are suffering. The curriculum clause is a move in the wrong direction considering that pharmacy is not protected in this country.

A resolution was then proposed embodying regret that the old Clause 7 had been abandoned and that it was proposed to establish a curriculum. This was carried unanimously, a lively discussion being taken part in by Messrs. Widdowson, Wilson, Middleton, Adams, Gill, and Royce.

### Sunderland Chemists' Association.

A MEETING of this Association was held at the Grand Hotel on January 24, Mr. R. H. Bell in the chair. Among those present were Messrs. Hudson, Anderson, Hodgson, Thursfield Harrison, Chorell, and the Secretary (A. W. Golightly).

#### SHOP HOURS ACT.

A letter was read by the Secretary from the local Outfitters' Association asking if a deputation could wait upon that body and support them in the working of the Shop Hours Act in the town. After various opinions had been expressed by the members it was decided that the Secretary should write to the Outfitters' Association to the following effect: That as the Act does not apply directly to chemists the Association does not wish to take any action in the matter at present.

It was the general feeling of the meeting, however, that the present hours of pharmacists are unnecessarily long, and that the requirements of the business would be just as satisfactorily carried out if the time given to open shop were less. Although as chemists the meeting could not assist in putting the Shop Hours Act into force, it nevertheless had much sympathy with its object.

#### SALE OF VERMIN-KILLERS.

The next matter claiming attention was the recent prosecutions in connection with the sale of Rankin's ointment. It was considered that action regarding the sale of certain articles containing poisons should be uniform. A special meeting of the Council is to be held to consider the matter.

#### DISPENSING-PRICES.

A further matter brought forward was a code of prices for dispensing a prescription, and private marks for the guidance of other chemists. Several cases of dissatisfaction occurring with customers through different prices being



charged were reported; also instances where the chemist was misled by the customer as to the price previously paid. A resolution was framed and carried that the Council complete the idea and advise its members.

### Glasgow and West of Scotland Chemists' Trade Association.

Mr. J. W. SUTHERLAND presided on the evening of January 26 at the quarterly meeting of this Association, held in the rooms of the local Pharmaceutical Association, Glasgow. An official report of the proceedings supplied states that the Committee reported to the Association upon the work done since the annual meeting held in October.

#### PROFITS ON PROPRIETARY ARTICLES.

As preliminary to further efforts to secure a better profit on proprietary articles, the Secretary had sent a circular letter to the following firms—Messrs. Foster & McLellan, Messrs. Pepper & Co., Messrs. Kutnow & Co., Messrs. Ingram & Royle, Ltd., Messrs. Burroughs Wellcome & Co., Messrs. Oppenheimer, Son & Co., Ltd., Valentine's Meat Juice Co., the Fellows Medicinal Co., the Lincoln and Midland Counties Drug Co., Cuticura (Messrs. Newbery & Sons), Messrs. Hinksman, Messrs. McKill, and Messrs. Rankin and Borland—urging them to protect, through the P.A.T.A., the retail prices of the articles they control. Replies were received from all except the Lincoln and Midland Counties Drug Co., Cuticura, and Messrs. Fellows. The general tenor of the replies indicates (says the report) that further efforts on the part of the Associations are necessary to convince proprietors that it is to their own interests to secure to retailers reasonable profits on their preparations.

#### EARLY CLOSING.

Mr. Russell moved a resolution, as a remit from the Committee, "That this Association desires as far as it may to facilitate the working of the Shop Hours Act," and suggested that although the resolution did not commit the Association to the adoption of the Act, even if this were possible, at the present time it would show to other traders that chemists were anxious to have earlier closing-hours, and that their adoption by trades coming within the scope of the Act would enable chemists to close earlier voluntarily.

It was decided, as this matter had already been taken up by the Pharmaceutical Association, to leave it in their hands, and to co-operate if necessary.

#### DISPENSING BROKEN-BULK PROPRIETARIES.

A tentative scheme was then submitted with a view to getting better and more uniform prices for the dispensing of broken bulk of proprietary preparations, it being felt by the members that the prices obtained at present were quite inadequate considering the amount of waste stock made in breaking bulk and the capital locked up, with the ever-increasing stock of these goods.

#### A JOINT DINNER.

It was decided to co-operate with the local Pharmaceutical Association in a trade dinner, to be held in the Grosvenor Restaurant on March 8, and Messrs. Gilmour, Murchie, and Hunt were appointed a committee to represent the Trade Association.

### Chemists' Assistants' Association.

A MEETING was held at 73 Newman Street, W., on January 26, Mr. W. Matthews (Vice-President) in the chair. A paper was read by Mr. J. Trevor Cart, B.Sc., on

#### FERMENTS AND FERMENTATION

considered from the pharmaceutical point of view. Fermentation takes place whenever an organic compound undergoes change in composition under the influence of a nitrogenous compound, called a ferment, which acts in small quantities and yields nothing to the fermented substance. Precise knowledge of the nature of the process is primarily due to Pasteur, and his axiom, "No fermentation without organisms—for each kind of fermentation a particular organism," forms the basis of the enzyme theory of the present day. This theory considers fermentation to be the result of the action of certain metabolic products (termed

enzymes) of the living cell in the fermentative organism. Ferments are frequently classed as organised and unorganised, the fermentation being due to the protoplasm and enzymes respectively, but modern work tends to show that all fermentation is due to the action of enzymes, which are secretion-products of protoplasm. The organised ferments are vegetable and belong to a few genera of fungi, the chief of which are the so-called moulds, yeast (which produces alcoholic fermentation), and those which ferment, for example, alcohol to acetic acid and milk sugar and glucose to lactic acid. Mr. Cart gave the present explanation of the latter change, which, considering the structural formula of glucose, supposes the bacteria to act selectively on the groups of the glucose molecule, reducing some and oxidising others, the final result being that two molecules of lactic acid ( $C_3H_6O_3$ ) are produced from one molecule of glucose ( $C_6H_{12}O_6$ ). A micro-organism of direct pharmaceutical interest is that which causes infusions of digitalis, senega, and many others to become gelatinous owing to the gelatinisation of the pectin-like bodies by the fermenting action set up by the particular organism. After referring to the part played by the enzymes in assimilation and digestion, Mr. Cart proceeded to consider in detail the two classes of the enzymes—those of the carbohydrates and the proteolytic enzymes. A test for enzymes is the power they have of giving a blue colouration in tincture of guaiacum with or without hydrogen peroxide, due to the formation of a dyestuff by the transformation of the guaiaconic acid into guaiacosonide. They also produce indophenol from a solution of para-phenylenediamine. The lecturer dealt at some length with the ferment-products of the carbohydrates, especially those of starch (maltose and dextrin), glucose (alcohol), and the fats, and mentioned the discovery by Professor J. R. Green of inulase, the ferment of inulin, and cytase, the ferment of cellulose. An interesting point was the conversion, by certain reducing ferments present in the air, of the arsenic in arsenical wall-papers into arseniuretted hydrogen, thus explaining the danger of such papers. Referring to the proteolytic ferments, Mr. Cart explained the action of pepsin, trypsin, and the ferments of the pancreas upon the albumen of foods, and the preparation of cheese by the use of rennet. He concluded a comprehensive paper with a description of the process of putrefaction by means of the micro-organisms always present in the air.

A discussion followed, after which the Vice-President referred to the President's absence, which, he regretted to say, was occasioned by the death of his brother, and a vote of sympathy was passed by the meeting, all standing.

### Bristol Pharmaceutical Association.

ON February 1 the annual meeting of this Association was held at the Royal Hotel, Bristol. In the absence of Mr. J. W. White (the President), Mr. G. T. Turner (the Vice-President) was voted to the chair.

#### ELECTION OF OFFICERS.

The Chairman proposed that Mr. A. Taylor be the President of the Association for the ensuing year. Mr. H. E. Matthews seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

Other officers were elected as follows: Vice-President, Mr. H. E. Boorne; Hon. Secretary, Mr. T. Grant; Assistant Hon. Secretary, Mr. E. W. Hill; Treasurer, Mr. H. E. Matthews.

Mr. Boorne said that up to the present they had not regularly elected an Executive, and he proposed that the committee should comprise the Executive officers and Messrs. G. T. Turner and J. Chandler.

This was agreed to.

The newly elected President then took the chair.

#### ANNUAL REPORT.

The retiring Hon. Secretary (Mr. H. E. Boorne) presented the annual report, which reviewed events of the past year. It stated that perhaps the most important piece of work of the Association was accomplished on April 13 by a deputation, consisting of Messrs. Isaac, Matthews, Turner, and Trebilco, waiting upon Sir Michael Hicks-Beach, M.P. for Bristol West, and bringing before his notice the Pharmacy Bill. The deputation explained the contentious clause of the Bill to the right hon. gentleman, who expressed him-



self as opposed to the principle of restricting the ownership of chemists' businesses to qualified boards of directors or even to qualified persons, the only necessity being, to his mind, that the actual seller or compounder of poisons should be qualified. The interview was reported at length in the public Press and pharmacy journals, and the consensus of opinion was that Sir Michael had betrayed himself into an illogical position. Mention was also made of the testimonial, consisting of a substantial cheque, which was handed over to the late Hon. Secretary, Mr. B. Keen, in appreciation of his connection with the Association for many years. The number of members remains about the same as last year. (Applause.)

Mr. Matthews referred to Mr. Turner's happy recovery from severe illness.

Mr. Turner, replying, said it was a great pleasure to him to be with them again in health and strength.

The report was adopted.

#### TREASURER'S REPORT.

Mr. Matthews presented the Treasurer's accounts, which showed that the year was commenced with a balance of 4*l.* 5*s.* 5*d.* in hand, and the total receipts, including this balance, was 10*l.* 10*s.* 5*d.* The expenditure left a balance of 3*l.* 14*s.* 11*d.* in hand.

The accounts were adopted.

Votes of thanks having been given to the retiring officers, the question was raised as to the future place of meeting. It was agreed that the Association should meet monthly at least in the winter, and at intervals of about six weeks in the summer, and that the social side of the gatherings as well as business should receive due consideration. The annual dinner was fixed for Wednesday, April 26, when Mr. R. A. Robinson, the President of the Pharmaceutical Society, is to attend.

Consideration of the Federation's letter was postponed.

Mr. Matthews drew attention to

#### THE METRIC SYSTEM BILL,

and he mentioned that 330 members of Parliament were pledged to support it, whilst many others were in favour of its provisions but unwilling to pledge themselves definitely to vote for it. He proposed a resolution expressing approval of the principles of the Bill, and stating that the members would be glad to see its provisions made law.

A motion approving of the principles of the Bill was accordingly carried.

#### London Chemists' Association.

A MEETING of the Northern Branch of this Association was, as briefly announced in our last issue, held at the Athenæum, Camden Town, N.W., on January 26. Mr. John Holding was in the chair and there were ten members present. The early part of the meeting was taken up with the consideration of the new rules proposed by Mr. Pond (*C. & D.*, January 14, p. 62). These were taken *seriatim* and agreed to. The Chairman then raised the question as to the advisability of reducing the subscription to 2*s.* 6*d.* He thought that with certain expenses which it was contemplated incurring, it was not advisable at the present to reduce the subscription. The meeting decided that the amount remain at 5*s.*

#### CLAUSE 7.

Mr. R. Betty opened a discussion on Clause 7, and said they might congratulate themselves that the Council of the Pharmaceutical Society had adopted the recommendation of the L.C.A. on the titles question and modification of Clause 7. He thought it was much more satisfactory to make the reference to titles in the new clause than leave it to Clause 11. Mr. Betty then reiterated the claims made in the new clause, and said that now the Bill appeals to all registered chemists, whether employed by companies or not. The Chairman said the old clause was but a crying for the moon, and several Members of Parliament to whom he had spoken had told him that it could never have become law. He understood that Mr. Lough had persuaded several other members to back the Bill. The Bill, in his (the speaker's) opinion, now stood a much better chance of passing. Some desultory discussion then followed as to the effect of the new clause, and Mr. A. C. Wootton was called upon to tell the meeting what is really intended by the clause. Mr.

Wootton began by saying that personally he preferred the old clause, and he could not see that the new clause went very far towards appeasing the opposition. The alteration in the clause means that the director who manages the chemist's business must be qualified, and no other director who is not qualified can manage that department. The clause unquestionably does meet fairly the claims of the principle of the Pharmacy Act, 1868, and he would be satisfied if it got through. He was told the Bill now stands a better chance of passing, but he was disappointed to see the old clause knocked out without it being before the House of Commons. He regretted also that the London Chemists' Association was the first to advise abandonment of the old clause. The Association seemed too ready to yield to an opposition not unexpected. The opposition was fully expected, and, besides, the Bill had only been before the House for two Sessions. Lots of Bills were before Parliament for twenty years. The Society was gradually getting a fair amount of support in Parliament for the claims laid down in the old clause, and the principle has been adopted in two of the British possessions. Mr. Wootton then referred to the probabilities of a general election, and said he believed that the President of the Association (Mr. T. H. W. Idris) and perhaps other members of the trade would be in the next Parliament. The modified clause would perhaps also get more support from the Government. He (the speaker) hoped, however, that the chemists and druggists of the country, having laid down a principle in the new clause, would not accept anything smaller. The necessity for putting forward every effort, when the time comes, was finally impressed upon the meeting.

Mr. Burton said the London Chemists' Association was the first to agitate for an alteration of the clause because it is a progressive body and foresaw that the old clause stood little or no chance of passing. The Chairman, summing up the discussion, said he thought the new clause would be right for all, and he was glad that the privilege and honour of the clause belonged to the London Chemists' Association.

The letter from the Reading Chemists' Association in regard to placing more articles on the P.A.T.A. was then considered in committee.

#### Liverpool Chemists' Association.

THE ANNUAL MEETING was held on Thursday evening, January 26, at the Royal Institution, Liverpool. Mr. R. C. Cowley, the retiring President, in calling on Mr. P. H. Marsden to take the chair, said he had no doubt that the officers and members would all help Mr. Marsden to have a successful year of office in every respect. Mr. Marsden then took the chair, amid applause, and briefly thanked Mr. Cowley for his remarks. The Secretary read

#### THE ANNUAL REPORT,

and the Treasurer his statement of accounts, the latter showing a balance in hand of 12*l.* 5*s.* 7*d.*, which was considered satisfactory, and the report and statement were duly approved. On the proposition of Mr. R. C. Cowley, the retiring members of the Council were re-elected.

Mr. Marsden then delivered his Presidential address on

#### MOSCOW: MOTHER OF CITIES.

This was a lantern lecture describing the passage from Mill-wall Docks, London, the scenes *en route*, and finally Moscow. The Swan pharmacy (*apteka*) in Riga was referred to, and one at Pskov, which is quite handsome. It is built of wood, and painted white, with the customary eagle over the door. Above the *apteka* is a dentist's consulting-room. Moscow was thoroughly described and illustrated by the lecturer, who made the following remarks regarding Ferrein's pharmacy:

Arriving at the Nikolskaia, one of the busiest streets in the Kitai Gorod, after passing through the gate at the base of which is the shrine of the Iverian Mother of God (at which the Czar goes to prayer each time he visits Moscow), the *droshky* drew up at the palatial pharmacy of the Corporation Ferrein, the grandeur of which one cannot adequately describe. Passing through the *aptekar'sky* magazin on the left-hand side, with its special counter for photographic materials, its cases labelled "Patent Medicines," "Household Medicines," "Lozenges," and in which one can buy all kinds of sundries, instruments, etc., one comes to a marble hall which is on the ground floor of the *apteka*. Crossing this, one enters the retail drug-room, where are sold drugs



not on prescription. Mounting a flight of marble steps, one enters the pharmacy proper, or apteka. This is devoted entirely to the dispensing of prescriptions, in Russia a very profitable business, in spite of the moderate prices charged for good work. Here the prescription is handed to a provisor, or qualified man; he is one of four whose sole duty it is to take the prescription from the patient. This prescription is registered, a receipt given to its owner, and it is then handed on to one of the four girls engaged in typing the curious fan-stick labels, of which several were shown. On the obverse of this is the name of the doctor, the time of receipt, name of patient, price, and directions for use; on the reverse a copy of the original prescription. These characteristic labels are called "signatura." The label is then checked by the provisor, and handed on to one of the dispensers. Of these there are forty, among whom are some half-a-dozen women. The controllers, of whom there are four, do nothing else but this particular work. After examination the controller sets his stamp upon the reverse of the signatura, and is then personally responsible to the patient for the correct compounding of the medicine. Each container is now put into a special place, one part of a table being reserved for mixtures, another for powders, a separate table for lotions, ointments, and external remedies. Pills are put into a eupboard, and are dispensed in bottles, powders in boxes, bottles, or eachets. I never saw in Russia any corrugated bottle to correspond with what we use in this country. Hypodermic injections are kept in an aseptic instrument-case. For the preparation of these two special rooms are set apart, furnished with a stock of all the drugs used hypodermically, and fitted with the most recent apparatus for sterilisation, the work being controlled by a Magister of Pharmacy, dressed in a long white coat, such as are used by surgeons. Another room is devoted to the drugs of strong smell, as iodoform. Separate, again, from the main apteka is the decoctorium, with marble walls, in which the necessary infusions, decoctions, and galenicals prepared extemporaneously are made. In the upper floors of this large pharmacy are rooms set apart for the staff, dining-rooms, reading-rooms, and bedrooms for men on night-duty. Here also are an excellent museum of materia medica and a lecture-room, in which teaching is afforded by professors of the university and others, and a herbarium of plants. I was assured by the senior director of the firm, who took me over the building, that the course given is much above the requirements of the legal examinations. There is a study for the senior director here, and it contains some fine transparencies of tropical vegetation in India, Java, etc., in many of which figures Professor Tichomiroff, of the University of Moscow, a dear friend of Mr. Ferrein, with whom he has travelled over many parts of the world.

Right at the top of the building are large rooms in which leaves and flowers are dried, and the work is well done, the colours giving evidence of very careful drying. In an upper room is a provisor, who is engaged in entering up the prescriptions dispensed each day, and it is here that one can appreciate the position the house holds in the world of select pharmacy, for I was shown the figures for the previous twelve months, which prove that the house in that time dispensed over half-a-million prescriptions and repeats.

Leaving this building after seeing the store-cellars, in which bottles and mineral waters are stored, the latter being imported direct, we took a droschky and drove up the Nikolskaia, past the shrine of St. Pantaleymon the Healer, and that of St. Mary of Vladimir, through the gate of that name, and to the manufactory of the firm.

A consignment of condensed milk of half-a-million tins was just finished as I arrived; this is made by the firm, and checked by a military doctor, to whom I was introduced. Each tin has directions for use enamelled on it, and a notice to the effect that it could not be offered for sale, being intended for the soldiers at the seat of war. Another part was devoted to the manufacture of dressings, and I was shown a most ingenious piece of apparatus for surrounding each packet of dressing with an impervious casing of cardboard, the whole being closed under aseptic conditions. There were laboratories for all kinds of analyses, chemical and bacteriological, and a special laboratory is devoted to the examination of synthetic remedies for impurity, in which Mr. Ferrein, nephew, was engaged. There were the steam-pans, stills, etc., which one sees in a wholesale laboratory, for the preparation of liquid extracts, tinctures, etc. In one large room a Magister of Pharmacy was directing the preparation of subnitrate of bismuth, and the spreading of long rolls about 3 inches wide of mercurial plaster on fine black silk. In this room I saw also a German apparatus for making gelatin perles, and was sorry not to be able to see the whole process.

The stores of drugs were in excellent order, special rooms being set apart for poisons, in accordance with the regulations. Over each door of these was the word "Venena" in large letters. One room was set apart for hydrocyanic acid. The labels were in Latin and Russian. I am extremely in-

debted to Mr. Vladimir Karlovitch Ferrein, the head of the firm, for his kindness in showing me into every detail of his large business.

Although the house of Ferrein is the finest in Russia, there are other fine aptekas in Moscow.

Mr. Marsden was very cordially thanked for his lecture.

### Plymouth, Devonport, Stonehouse, and District Chemists' Association.

At the lecture theatre of the Technical Schools, Plymouth, on January 25, Mr. F. A. Goodwin presided over a good attendance of chemists and medical men when Mr. Thos. Maben, F.C.S., gave his interesting lecture on "The Preparation of Serums and Vaccines." The lecture was listened to with much attention, and at the conclusion Mr. C. J. Park proposed a vote of thanks to Mr. Maben. Dr. C. Hamilton Whiteford, in seconding, corroborated the great benefits that had accrued in certain diseases from the use of antitoxins.

### Society of Chemical Industry.

#### NOTTINGHAM SECTION.

THE fourth meeting of the Session was held on January 25, at the Midland Hotel, Derby, Mr. S. F. Burford (Vice-Chairman) presiding. There was a fair attendance. The first paper, by Mr. F. J. R. Carulla, on railway tanks for carrying tar and liquor, and another, by Messrs. Ward and Longden, on the effect of increased sulphur in silicious pig iron, are of but little pharmaceutical interest. Mr. C. Lamb sent a short communication on

#### THE MINERAL CONSTITUENTS OF SUMACH AND ITS ADULTERANTS.

which largely confirmed, by the author's own experiments, the information given on the subject by Mr. Trotman at a previous meeting. (*C. & D.*, December 3, 1904, p. 912). In the course of the discussion Mr. J. O'Sullivan pointed out that any estimation of chlorine and sulphuric acid in the ash of plants must be erroneous, as magnesia drives away both these substances on incineration. Chlorine and sulphur in a plant should be determined by some other method.

Mr. L. Archbutt exhibited and explained the method of using

#### MAHLER'S CALORIMETER.

The weighed substance whose calorific powers is to be estimated is placed in a deflagrating-spoon of platinum which hangs down from the cover of a very strong steel vessel (the bomb), shaped something like an artillery shell. This cover screws on to the bomb a lead washer, making a perfectly airtight joint. Through the cover passes a small pipe closed by a delicate cone-valve. Oxygen at a pressure of some 25 atmospheres is forced into the bomb from a cylinder, and it is then ready to be lowered into a well-jacketed calorimeter which contains the necessary quantity of water to make up, with the water-equivalent of the apparatus, some even figure. This equivalent can be found either by calculation or by experiment. Knowing the exact weight of the various parts, it is easy from the specific heats of the various materials to calculate the equivalent, which can also be experimentally determined by the method of mixtures and by burning in the bomb a substance of known calorific power. In this manner Mr. Archbutt found the calculated heat-absorbing power of the apparatus to be the same as that of 523 grams of water, while by the method of mixtures the figure obtained was 522, and by burning pure naphthalene, whose calorific power is perfectly well known, the figure obtained was 527. He adopted the number 527, and made up to 3,000 grams with distilled water. This allowed easy calculation of the result. After observing the temperature of the water at minute intervals for five minutes with a delicate thermometer allowing the hundredth of a degree Centigrade to be read—in order to be able to correct for radiation—the coal or other substance within the bomb is electrically fired by fine platinum wire connected to electrodes that pass through the cover. The water surrounding the bomb is mechanically stirred, and when the thermometer has reached the maximum it is again observed at minute intervals for five minutes, after which the calculation can be made.



Mr. Archbutt further explained that it had been found that castor oil is the best lubricant for the screw of the bomb-cover, and also that a film of beeswax is a good thing to preserve the small cone-valve from corrosion. The interior of the bomb is enamelled, but no method has yet been found of preventing the cracking of the enamel. As the apparatus costs 40l., any points connected with its proper maintenance are of importance.

The meeting then terminated, the several contributors having been heartily thanked.

#### SCOTTISH SECTION.

On January 31 a meeting of this Section was held in the Technical College, Glasgow. A paper was read by Messrs. R. R. Tatlock and R. T. Thomson on

#### THE DETERMINATION OF SMALL PROPORTIONS OF BROMINE AND CHLORINE IN COMMERCIAL IODINE.

The method suggested depended on the application of known reactions, the great advantage of operating on large quantities (from 5 to 10 grams of the sample) being claimed for the method. The iodine, bromine and chlorine are first converted into the zinc compounds by agitation with zinc and water, the iodine is then liberated by addition of sulphuric acid and potassium nitrite, filtered to remove the great bulk of the iodine thus precipitated, and the solution treated with benzene or other solvent to remove the rest of the iodine. The bromine is next precipitated in the solution by silver nitrate in an ammoniacal solution, and finally the chlorine, by acidifying the filtrate with nitric acid.

A paper was also read on

THE EXAMINATION OF COD-LIVER AND OTHER FISH-LIVER OILS, by Messrs. R. T. Thomson and H. Dunlop. The authors first dealt with the necessity of obtaining really genuine samples of oil, and for this purpose they rendered the oils in the laboratory from the livers of the cod, ling, hake, coalfish, whiting, haddock, skate, and dogfish, and from the blubber of the porpoise. From the result of their examination of these and other oils the authors stated that they considered that the iodine-value, the saponification-value, and the percentage of unsaponifiable matter are of the first importance in the examination of cod-liver oil. As of secondary value, and as merely corroborative tests except for particular purposes, they placed the refractive power, the specific gravity, the specific temperature reaction or Mammene test, the Reichert-Wollny number, and the specific rotatory power. The colour-tests were also dealt with, and it was shown that three different cod-liver oils prepared from the livers by the authors showed different shades and intensity of colour by the sulphuric-acid test, so that any determination of impurities by comparison of the colours given by different samples is a grossly unscientific proceeding.

The general conclusions drawn were that, so far as information goes at the present day, the fish-liver oils enumerated above were quite indistinguishable from each other by chemical or physical tests, that considerable proportions of dogfish or shark-liver oils could be added without certainty of being detected, but that even less than 5 per cent. of porpoise oil might be detected. The authors finally protested against the pretence of being able to find adulterants when there are really no proper data to guide analysts.

At the end of the paper the authors referred to the paper on cod-liver oil by Messrs. Umney and Bennett, in *THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST* of January 28, in which, "without prejudice," certain requirements for the intended new edition of the *British Pharmacopœia* are proposed. The authors said:

With these conclusions we agree generally, but there are some points which, from our experience, require further elucidation, thus showing that it is far from a simple thing to determine the genuineness of cod-liver oil. We shall just refer to two or three of the chief standards which they propose, and compare these with the result of our own observations. They propose an iodine-value of 154 to 170, which tallies almost exactly with our own observations, but it is evident that this range may have to be extended further, as Wijs has found cod-liver oil with an iodine-value of 181. The specific gravity they recommend is between 0.925 and 0.931, but the first of these is rather high, and it would be safer to have them ranging between 0.923 and 0.931; but this constant

is not a very decisive one at the best. The melting-point of the fatty acids and the colour test as recommended by the *German Pharmacopœia* are of doubtful utility, but that unsaponifiable matter should not exceed 1.5 per cent. is an excellent suggestion. We cannot agree with these authors, however, either as to the independent value of the refractive power, or as to the limit they are disposed to fix. They suggest that the refractive index at 20° C. should not be below 1.4790. According to our observations this would mean about 78.2 scale divisions of the Zeiss butyro-refractometer at 25° C., whereas we have obtained a certainly genuine cod-liver oil as low as 75.7, or 2.5 scale divisions less than that proposed as a minimum by Messrs. Umney and Bennett. This example alone is sufficient to show the danger of fixing standards, even after very extended observation.

Mr. Gemmell (Edinburgh) presided, and on the conclusion of the paper complimented the authors on the enormous amount of careful work which it represented. He said that while hitherto Allen's work was largely used as a guide, the figures which had been presented would be likely to become standards for fish-liver oils.

## College Notes.

LEEDS COLLEGE OF PHARMACY.—A new prospectus of this College has just been issued by Mr. F. Pilkington Sargeant, in which particulars are given of the facilities offered for studying for the Minor examination. The methods adopted seem to be both systematic and thorough, and students who have not yet decided on a school should write for a copy of this new prospectus.

EDINBURGH (ROYAL DISP.) SCHOOL OF PHARMACY.—The first President of the Transvaal Pharmacy Board was a student of Mr. W. Duncan's at this school in 1898. A Transvaal correspondent writes that "five of the committee of the Pharmaceutical Society of the Transvaal, and many of the members, as well as the President of the Board, are all from Duncan's school."

THE INTER-PHARMACY FOOTBALL LEAGUE.—The tie London College v. Metropolitan College was played at Shepherd's Bush on January 28. Shortly after London had kicked off, the Metros. gained possession, but were ruled off-side, a similar ruling soon pulling up the London forwards in the other direction. The game had not proceeded long before Haylett, the Metros' centre, was placed *hors de combat* by a sprain. London opened the scoring by a shot from Cartledge. This was rapidly followed by a second goal by Brooks, who neatly manipulated a centre by Abel from the region of the touch-line. Before half-time a third goal was added by Williams. In the second half the turf became very heavy and scoring difficult, but London had still the best of the game, and succeeded in scoring two more goals by Cartledge, thus winning by five goals to *nil*. The Metros. throughout showed dogged perseverance in their endeavours to reduce the Londoners' lead, and some of their shots required the exercise of all the saving powers of Browning, the London goalkeeper.

## WHERE TO STUDY.

THE FOLLOWING EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS are advertising in this issue:

School of Pharmacy, 17 Bloomsbury Square, W.C.

South London School of Pharmacy, 325 Kennington Road, S.E.

Westminster College of Pharmacy, Trinity Square, Borough, S.E.

Metropolitan College of Pharmacy, 160 and 162 Kennington Park Road, S.E.

London College of Chemistry, 323 Clapham Road, S.W.

Brixton School of Pharmacy, 171 Brixton Road, S.W.

Liverpool School of Pharmacy, 6 Sandon Terrace, Upper Duke Street, Liverpool.

Royal Dispensary, 21 West Richmond Street, Edinburgh.

## Recent Wills.

HUNTER.—The late Mr. Harry Hunter, chemist and druggist, of West Cornforth, who died on November 27, has left gross estate valued at 1,988l., including net personality 956l.

JACKS.—Letters of administration to the estate of the late Mr. Ebenezer Jacks, chemist and druggist, formerly of 141 Gower Street, W.C., who died on September 11, 1904, have been granted to his widow, Mrs. Elizabeth Jacks, of 3 Bartholomew Villas, Kentish Town. The gross estate is valued at 336l. 9s. 2d.

MASON.—The will of the late Mr. Frederick Mason, chemist and druggist, of Cedar House, Moorgate, Rotherham, who died on October 1, 1904, has been proved at 8,363l. gross.



## Dispensing Notes.

THE Edinburgh Chemists', Assistants', and Apprentices' Association at its meeting last week again added distinction to its record of practical work. A series of excellent notes on dispensing problems were read and dis-

cussed. The first of the series were by Mr. Donald McEwan, and Mr. William Duncan, F.C.S., followed him with notes and queries. We submit the gist of both sets.

Hydrarg. c. cretâ ... gr. xxiv.  
Sulphur. præcip. ... 3j.  
Sodii bicarb. ... ʒiiv.  
Pulv. rhei ... gr. xij.

Misce et divide in pulv. xij.

If the first two ingredients are rubbed together in a mortar, black streaks of mercuric sulphide are formed and the powder is perceptibly darkened; but by diluting the grey powder with sodium bicarbonate before adding the sulphur no perceptible change is observed. The box in which the powders were sent out was brought back in a few weeks to be refilled, and it was noticed that the inside of the box was blackened. Probably some of the mercury and sulphur were volatilised and, combining, deposited as black sulphide of mercury on the inside of the box.

Liq. strychnin. hydrochlor. ... ʒss.  
Tr. strophanth. (Fraser) ... 3j.  
Acid. hydrobrom. dil. ... ʒss.  
Tr. gent. co. ad ... ʒiij.

M. Ft. mist.

This mixture was dispensed by a provincial chemist, and when the bottle was brought to be refilled it was observed to contain an abundant crop of crystals. These proved to be cream of tartar. Evidently hydrobromic acid prepared by Squibb's process had been used in disregard of Section 15 of the Pharmacy Act, 1868.

Liq. strychnin. hydrochlor. ... ʒij.  
Acid. nitro-hydrochlor. dil. ʒvj.

Misce.

With freshly made acid (after standing the required fourteen days) this mixture is of a slight straw colour, gradually deepening to an orange yellow. The change is accompanied by a very perceptible loss of bitterness. It is not so with old acid, so that freshly made nitro-hydrochloric acid is the more energetic oxidising agent.

## Excessive Doses

cause a great deal of worry to prescribers, dispensers, and patients. They are frequently intentional, and it is a pity that prescribers cannot adopt some unobtrusive means of indicating such an intention when a dose over the maximum is prescribed. Mr. McEwan has collected a number of illustrations, but in only one instance was the dose quoted marked as intentional. This was done by writing the full words after the usual signs (e.g. 3 ij., two drachms). Mr. McEwan deprecated the inference that because these doses have been once dispensed they may be dispensed again without specially referring to the prescriber. It is unsafe to do so. In some of the cases there were special directions, not indicated on the prescriptions, which minimised the alarming character of the dose. The

doses given in the following list were all dispensed without any ill effects:

Amyl nitrite 20 minims by inhalation, gallic acid 40 grains, ergotin 15 grains, salicin 60 grains, alum 40 grains (for a child of two years), croton oil 2 minims, tincture of muriate of iron E.P. 1 drachm, uranium nitrate 20 grains, liq. strychnin. hydrochlor. 20 minims, liq. arsenicalis 20 minims, and phenacetin 20 grains.

Mr. McEwan also submitted four prescriptions showing unusual doses, such as tr. hyoscyam. ʒiij.; sodii salicylat. ʒj., antipyrin. gr. xxv., caffein gr. vi., exalgin. gr. ij. in one powder (tales sex).

Mr. Duncan's queries were submitted to the members in print. The first was about liquefaction in a pill containing carbolic acid, quinine sulphate, and extract of nux vomica. This is due chiefly to reaction between the sulphate and acid, a little quinine sulpho-carbolate being formed, while at the same time water of crystallisation is liberated. The second query was:

*What method of compounding the following mixture will prevent the camphor and guaiacum forming hard masses and adhering to the bottle?*—

Sodii salicylat.,  
Spt. camphor. ... aa ʒij.  
Potass. iodid. ... ʒj.  
Mist. guaiaci ad ... ʒvj. M.

A cursory reading of this prescription suggests no difficulty. If the mixture be made by adding the first three ingredients to the mist. guaiaci in the usual way, in the course of a few hours floating masses of camphor and guaiacum form, which cannot be diffused by shaking, the camphor and guaiacum combining to form an oleoresin. The difficulty can be overcome without the aid of gums as follows: Place the solid ingredients of the guaiacum mixture in a mortar, and mix with the sodium salicylate and camphor equivalent to the quantity of spirit of camphor. Triturate with a little of the cinnamon-water. The guaiacum resin is dissolved in the salicylate solution. Strong solutions of sodium salicylate act as solvents of many resins, but on dilution precipitation of the resin and camphor in a readily diffusible condition takes place. Finally add the iodide and the alcohol of the spirit of camphor, and send out with a "Shake the bottle" label.

The next query was about a mixture containing potassium iodide, caffeine citrate, and spirit of nitrous ether. Mr. Duncan recommended caffeine alkaloid to take the place of the citrate, and neutral spirit.

An ointment containing sulph. præcip., potass. carb., and lard becomes dark brown on keeping: why? Impossible to say without examination.

The change may be due to impurity, or possibly a dark-coloured sulphurated potash is formed.

*Why does the addition of glycerin to tinct. ferri. perchlor. cause darkening?* Many other substances do this to ferric solutions—for example, water and syrup. Ferric chloride is yellow, but on dilution darkens from partial hydrolysis into red-brown coloured hydroxide and hydrochloric acid. The ferric hydroxide, being colloidal, remains in solution—for a time at least. When glycerin or syrup is the diluting agent there is also a partial combination. Ferric hydroxide cannot be completely precipitated by alkalis in presence of glycerin or syrup. The solvent action of ferric solution on quinine sulphate is due to the same cause, and it also partly accounts for the colouring of ferrous syrups.

*Why do pills of dried sulphate of iron crack on keeping?* This depends on the excipient; if aqueous, the salt may slowly pass into the crystalline condition, causing unequal expansion and cracking. With lanolin excipient no cracking takes place.

A querist asked if a mixture containing potass. bromid. and acid. nitro-hydroch. dil. might be dispensed. Mr. Duncan had no hesitation in doing so. Bromine may in time be set free, but not to a dangerous extent.

After telling why lime is less soluble in hot water than in cold, Mr. Duncan said the precipitate in a mixture containing tr. card. co., spt. ammon. arom., and aq. dest. is chiefly calcium and magnesium salts with colouring and extractive matter mechanically carried down or salted out. He further stated that the deposit in infus. senega conc. is attributed to decomposition of the glucosides with precipitation of sapogenin, possibly owing to the action of enzymes. Alkalies are frequently added to prevent the precipitation. Then came these two prescriptions:

Liq. Donovan.,  
Potass. iodid. ... aa ʒij.  
Spt. ammon. arom. ... ʒss.  
Aq. cinnam. ad ... ʒvj. M.

Here the mercuric iodide of the Donovan's solution and the potassium iodide produce Nessler's reagent, which gives colour-reactions with the ammonia of the aromatic spirit.

Iodi ... gr. x.  
Pot. iod. ... gr. xx.  
Glycerin. ... ʒj. Solve

Should water be used to hasten solution? Mr. Duncan always uses it. Iodine is soluble in glycerin about 1 in 65, potassium iodide 1 in 3; and if the two be diligently triturated with a little of the glycerin, solution will be effected in time. The addition of water has been said to increase the irritating properties of the pigment.

THE NUREMBERG PHARMACEUTICAL MUSEUM received some useful additions in 1904, says the *Apotheker Zeitung*, "including 210 volumes, among which were a collection of very rare pharmaceutical formulæ of earlier centuries, and (most precious of all) an alchemistic treatise from the middle of the sixteenth century, which is carefully written on parchment and embellished with finely executed illustrations.

A REPORT having been published in the "Hannover Kurier" to the effect that Messrs. Meister, Lucius & Brüning were negotiating for the purchase of a new patent process by which Turkey-red dye could be manufactured at half its present cost, the "Frankfurter Zeitung" now publishes a disclaimer on behalf of the firm in question, stating that the report is entirely incorrect.



## Bankruptcies and Failures.

**Re GEORGE ARTHUR CROWTHER**, 96 Smedley Road, Cheet-ham, Manchester, late 358 Worsley Road, Winton, Patri-croft, Lanes, late Drug, Drysaltery, etc., Dealer. This debtor appeared for his adjourned public examination at the Court-house, Encombe Place, Salford, on Monday, January 30. The Official Receiver stated that the debtor had only recently filed the accounts which the Court had ordered, and he applied for a further adjournment in order to examine them. The Registrar accordingly adjourned the case.

**Re HENRY WAITS SHARP**, late of 78 High Holborn, W.C., Dealer in Proprietary Articles.—The receiving order in this case was made at the London Bankruptcy Court on January 12, upon a creditor's petition, and last Monday the first meeting of creditors was held there, before Mr. Walter Boyle, Assistant Receiver. The statement of affairs shows total liabilities 2,002*l.* 15*s.* 10*d.* (unsecured 1,970*l.* 10*s.* 1*d.*) and net assets 241*l.* 14*s.* 3*d.*, after deducting 32*l.* 4*s.* 9*d.* for the preferential claims. According to the debtor's statements, he was formerly the managing director of Frazer's Tablets, Ltd., and the Ludgate Monthly, Ltd., but in November 1892 he transferred his interest in those undertakings, to satisfy a debt of 2,500*l.* for cash advanced. In the following month he started as a dealer in proprietary articles at 28 Gray's Inn Road, with 50*l.* capital and the remnant of a small business given to him by his brother. He traded as H. W. Sharp & Co., as the Lotis Co., and as the Savonette Co. His preparations included Savonette, a hair-colouring mixture; Henry's hair-tints, Sao (for the skin), Bleach (for the hair), Blushette (a face-tint), the Hair-regenerator, Dorothy dentifrice, Dorothy Beauty Balm, Kascala (a digestive preparation), Lotis Tabules, and Cave's hair-stimulant. In the early part of 1899 he transferred his business to 78 High Holborn, where he traded until last November under the name of Arnold Cave & Co. The landlord distrained last December, and sold off the furniture and effects, he (debtor) having previously removed the small quantity of stock to Red Lion Square. He attributes his failure to the inadequate returns, to the large amount spent on advertisements, and to the strain on his resources by the repayment of borrowed capital. The case was left in the hands of the Official Receiver, to be wound up in bankruptcy, the debtor's public examination being fixed for February 21.

## New Companies & Company News.

**HOPE & Co., LTD.**—Capital 10,000*l.*, in 1*l.* shares (twenty founders). Objects: To carry on the business of manufacturers of and dealers in glass, china, earthenware, bottles, syphons, and other articles, wood and other boxes, mineral-water machinery, etc. No initial public issue. The subscribers are to appoint the first directors. Qualification 100*l.*

**CRYSTAL SPRINGS AERATED-WATER Co., LTD.**—Capital 10,000*l.*, in 1*l.* shares. Objects: To carry on the business of manufacturers of aerated waters and other drinks, brewers, bottlers, maltsters, manufacturing chemists, etc. No initial public issue. The first directors (to number not less than two nor more than five) are to be appointed by the signatories. Qualification of subsequent directors, 100*l.*

**J. B. WALKER & Co., LTD.**—Capital 8,000*l.*, in 1*l.* shares. Objects: To acquire and carry on the business of a refiner and manufacturer of and dealer in oils, tallow, grease, varnish, and cement heretofore carried on by J. B. Walker at Hull as "J. B. Walker & Co.," and to adopt an agreement with the said vendor. No initial public issue. The first directors are J. B. Walker, A. H. Appleton, and W. S. Mellon. Qualification 100*l.* Remuneration as fixed by the company.

**SNOWDON'S, LTD.**—Capital 5,000*l.*, in 1*l.* shares. Objects: To carry on the business of ironfounders, engineers, manufacturers of dyes, stains, paints, and chemicals, scientific and other implement manufacturers, tool-makers, metal-workers, smiths, dyers, carpenters, joiners, upholsterers, cabinet-makers, boat-builders, chemists, oilcloth-manufacturers, celluloid-manufacturers, textile-manufacturers, etc. No initial public issue. Registered without articles of association. Registered office, 18 Grosvenor Mansions, Victoria Street, S.W.

**BRITISH SOAP-POWDER Co., LTD.**—Capital 6,000*l.*, in 1*l.* shares (3,000 deferred). Objects: To acquire from C. Harvey a licence to manufacture dry-soap powders and other articles under patent No. 25,010 of 1903 for the United Kingdom, to adopt two agreements with the said C. Harvey and one with G. Townsend, and to carry on the business of importers, exporters, and manufacturers of and dealers in soaps, dry-soap powders, toilet-soap powders, borax, lincn and starch glazes,

preservatives for hams, bacon, and fish, etc. No initial public issue. The first directors are H. Greenall (chairman), C. Harvey, and G. Townsend (all permanent). Qualification 100 shares. Remuneration 25*l.* each per annum.

**ERNEST DONEL & Co., LTD.**—Registered in Dublin. Capital 1,000*l.*, in 1*l.* shares. Objects: To acquire and carry on the business of a pharmaceutical chemist carried on under the style of "The Medical Hall" at 217 Lisburn Road, Belfast. The first subscribers are: R. Armour, Abbeyleix, M.P.S.I.; W. J. Evans, 11 Rathmines Road, Dublin, accountant; S. H. Hillis, 17 Fairview Avenue, Clontarf, Dublin, clerk; D. White, 4 Hargrave Terrace, Rathgar, Dublin, clerk; P. Winder, Tourville, Rathfarnham, Dublin, cashier; S. H. Hinton, 11 York Avenue, Rathmines, gentleman; and J. E. Howis, 70 Dame Street, Dublin, law-clerk. Registered without articles of association. Registered office, 70 Dame Street, Dublin.

**LEVULOSE Co., LTD.**—Capital 2,000*l.*, in 1*l.* shares. Objects: To carry on the business of chemists, druggists, drysalters, oil and colour men, provision-merchants, grocers, Italian warehousemen, manufacturers of and dealers in pharmaceutical, medicinal, chemical, industrial, and other preparations, provisions, and groceries, and to adopt an agreement with M. Leewenthal, J. Stein, and J. David. The first subscribers are: G. Paul, 24 Gunter Grove, Chelsea, engineer; J. Lipp, 25 Coram Street, W.C., engineer; J. Eckstein, 25 Coram Street, W.C., merchant; W. F. Wolff, 140 Goldhurst Terrace, N.W., merchant; A. Smith, 51 Willow Street, St. Peter's Road, Mile End, E., accountant; A. McGregor Brown, 33 Addison Road, Wanstead, clerk; and E. Wright, 94 Huddlestons Road, Tufnell Park, N., cashier. No initial public issue. The first directors are J. David and S. Stein. Qualification 50 shares. Remuneration as fixed by the company. Registered office, 4-5 Warwick Court, Holborn, W.C.

**PRICE'S PATENT CANDLE Co., LTD.**—The accounts to December 31 last show a profit for 1904 of about 80,500*l.*, to which has to be added 9,662*l.* undivided profit from 1903, making together about 89,900*l.* The directors recommend that 10,000*l.* be written off for depreciation, that 5,000*l.* be added to the general insurance fund, that 37,500*l.* be applied in paying a dividend of 1*l.* per share, and that the remainder (about 9,300*l.*) be carried forward.

**G. B. KENT & SONS, LTD.**—The annual report of the directors for the year ended September 30, 1904, states that after charging working expenses, allowing for bad and doubtful debts, depreciation, etc., there is a balance of profit of 10,486*l.* 10*s.* 11*d.*, to which has to be added the balance brought forward from the previous year and the transfer-fees. On the other hand, there are to be deducted interest on mortgages and loans, income-tax, and directors' fees, also interim dividends on the preference and ordinary shares paid, leaving a balance of 5,365*l.* 19*s.* 9*d.* for division. The past year has been one of severe depression and keen competition, added to which the prices of nearly all raw materials used in the brush-trade have advanced. The life directors therefore forego their fees. The Board have placed 500*l.* to reserve (making it 2,500*l.*), which is invested in Consols, freehold cottages, and a freehold house, and paid the usual half-yearly dividend on the preference shares. In addition, they have written off one-third of the balance of equipment account of the new factories, and recommend a dividend at the rate of 6 per cent. per annum on the ordinary shares for the second half-year (making 5½ per cent. for the year), thus absorbing 5,111*l.* 12*s.* 9*d.*, and leaving 254*l.* 7*s.* to be carried forward.

**BOVRIL, LTD.**—The directors recommend dividends on the preference and ordinary shares at the rate of 5½ per cent. and 7 per cent. per annum respectively for the second half of the year, and 3 per cent. on the deferred shares for the year 1904, against 2½ per cent. for the previous year 1904; also to add 20,000*l.* to the reserve, the same as last year, and to carry forward 13,991*l.*, an increase of 1,560*l.*

**THE YEAR'S PRODUCTION OF SULPHUR** in Formosa in 1903 amounted to 4,558,240 lbs., of which about two-thirds was exported to Hong Kong for transhipment to Canton, and the rest to the United States.

**MR. H. PAYNE**, chemist, 16 Broad Street, Welshpool, sends us a copy of his 1905 Almanack—a book full of local interest. This year, in addition to a short history of Welshpool, Part I. of an introduction to local Church history, entitled "Ecclesia de Pola," is given, a contribution which promises to be of much value from an antiquarian point of view.

The copyright of Dr. Edwin Lankester's "Half-hours with the Microscope," formerly published by Messrs. W. H. Allen & Co., has been acquired by Messrs. C. Arthur Pearson, Ltd., who have also purchased the companion volume by Thomas Davies, on "The Preparation and Mounting of Microscopic Objects." The latter has been out of print for some time, but a new and cheaper edition is to be published shortly.



## Observations and Reflections.

By XRAYSER.

### Ideal Pharmacy

is the message of the Winter Issue of the *C. & D.* Almost every page, text and advertisements, exhorts us, directly or indirectly, to rise to higher levels. Mr. Freshfield Reynolds, who goes direct to the point, makes some of us uncomfortable (perhaps for our ultimate profit) by showing us how far we are below the proper standard. Mr. H. A. C. Sampson suggests the happy day when we can have a tooth-brush with a handle bent like a bow to get at our back teeth. Dr. Martindale demonstrates how much we miss of joy by refusing to adopt the metric system. Mr. Mair endorses Professor Oldberg's aspiration after a course of lectures on put-up proprietaries as an appendix to the ordinary curriculum. There is, too, it appears, an ideal in window show-cards which we may live up to. There is another in cod-liver oil, and it is gratifying to learn, on the authority of "our Bergen correspondent," that the codfish themselves are striving to attain to it in numbers and fatness, though they are still "far from satisfactory." Mr. Umney and Mr. Dott want to simplify the machinery of the Food and Drugs Acts by making it somewhat more complex. Mr. Walter H. Keen has a political ideal for pharmacy which is merely the modest one of maintaining the principle of the Pharmacy Act. He and I have an old-fashioned respect for that Act and for consistency; but who are we in a crowd that gets tired in a couple of years, and yearns for "something," no matter much what? Among all the ideals I am inclined to vote for that of Mr. Chang, of Shanghai, as he is represented on p. 152, sitting in front of his shop while his myrmidons are sending off an order for ninety-six cases of medicines.

### Russian Pharmacy

was founded, we are told by Mr. Prosper H. Marsden, by an English apothecary, named Frencham, under the auspices of Ivan the Terrible, who was contemporary with Queen Elizabeth. It is to be hoped that Mr. Marsden will some day tell us all he knows about Apothecary Frencham, whose career must have been an adventurous one. The story of the opening of communications between England and Russia in Tudor days is one of the romances of our history. Edward VI. had granted a pension to old Sebastian Cabot, the intrepid navigator who had discovered the North American continent. Cabot had long urged the possibility of reaching China and India by a north-east voyage round the North Cape. A passion for exploration, and the spirit of maritime enterprise which was to carry this nation so far, had just then awoke among English merchants, who eagerly yielded to Cabot's incitements. A syndicate, called "The Mystery, Company, and Fellowship of Merchant Adventurers for the Discovery of Unknown Lands," was formed, with Cabot as adviser, and on August 24, 1553, three ships set sail from London for the northern seas. Sir Hugh Willoughby was in chief command, and Richard Challoner was his lieutenant. The ships got separated in the Arctic Ocean, and Willoughby and sixty-five men were frozen to death. Challoner, with the third ship and forty-six men, however, made his way into the White Sea, and landed at Nenocksa, near the mouth of the Dwina. Thence the explorers made their way by sledges to Moscow, where Ivan received them cordially enough, and the foundation of an important trade was laid for the Company which Challoner represented, and which subsequently became the Russia Company.

### The Pharmaceutical Feature of my History

is coming immediately. Challoner returned to England in the spring of 1554, and the next year went out again, with much merchandise and letters from Queen Mary to the Czar written in Greek, Polish, and Italian, failing anyone who could write in Russian. The quaint English translations of the time refer to the Czar as Lord John Basilivitch. All went well this time, and in 1556 Challoner returned, bringing with him an envoy from Ivan named Nepega. The vessel was wrecked off the Scotch coast. Challoner was drowned, but Nepega and his suite escaped. Nepega was made much of in London, but the merchants reported that they found him very suspicious. Perhaps he had reason to be, for they were reckoning on immense profits from this new trade. It was he who took back with him six or eight men who, he thought, would be useful. Among these were a physician, named Standish, and an apothecary, who I suppose was the Frenchman referred to by Mr. Marsden. My authority is a book entitled "Russia and England," by a Russian of German extraction, Von Hamel, an English translation of which was published in 1854. The party reached Moscow on September 12, 1557, kissed the Czar's hand, dined with him, and two days afterwards each received a horse from him. To the doctor he also sent seventy roubles and to the apothecary thirty roubles. A nice discrimination!

### The Apothecary

and his fellow Englishmen probably made themselves useful, for there is no record of their execution, which was a frequent ending to Ivan's friendships. The correspondence which followed between the Czar and Queen Elizabeth is very amusing. Ivan made overtures of marriage to the English Queen, which her Majesty does not seem to have taken seriously enough, for at last the Czar complains bitterly that her letters are all concerned with commerce, while his personal affairs should have first consideration. Incidentally he had an astrologer broken on the wheel and thrown in the river for misleading him as to Elizabeth's feelings towards him. In 1567, when Frencham had presumably been in Moscow ten years, Ivan wrote to the Queen asking for an architect "who could make castles, towns, and palaces," a doctor, an apothecary, a surgeon, and practical men "coning to seke ought gold and silver." Thomas Carver was the name of the apothecary sent out in answer to this request. According to a letter from Lock, the architect supplied to the Czar's order, on arrival "the doctor was jolyvated with 200 roubles, the polycarie with 100, and the surgeon with 50." Jolyvated was probably a rendering of the Russian word *jolobatoi*, a gratuity. By this time Ivan had evidently arrived at a juster appreciation of pharmacy. Carver perished in the great fire of Moscow when the Tartars attacked it in 1571, and the only further item of pharmaceutical news which Von Hamel gives is that the apothecary Frencham returned to England when Ivan died, in 1584, in company with Dr. Jacob, a noted English physician whom Queen Elizabeth had sent to attend on the tyrant's third wife.

### Lord Avebury's Aphorism

that "this is not a world in which it is wise to be easily discouraged" is worth emphasising. He applies it for the moment to Mr. Faintheart Stacey, of the Early-closing Association, who regards the prospects of the Shop-hours Act as hopeless because nothing definite has resulted from it in the first month of its existence. The maxim is good enough for use in many other circumstances. The best work is not generally done by either old men or young men in a hurry. Lord Avebury himself is a bright example of his precept. He has accomplished much in the regions of science, of politics, of social reform, of education, of finance, and probably he has never yet been in a hurry. Patient persistence and invincible hopefulness have been the characteristics of his life and of his work.



# DISINFECTANTS.

The "Sanitas" Co., Lim.,

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well-known Non-poisonous

## "SANITAS" PREPARATIONS;

They also Make and Deal in

"Soldis," "Okol," "Creocide," "Pinos,"

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"Sulphugators," "Formic Sulphugators," "Formic Air  
Purifiers,"

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No. 1 Finest Pure CRUSHED LINSEED	17/ cwt.	Finest Pure STARCH POWDER	22/ cwt.
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Best Cleaned LINSEED (TEA)	18/ cwt.	EPSOM SALTS, ESS Purified, Clean, and Dry.	9/ cwt.
No. 1 Finest Pure FULLER'S EARTH (Light Colour)	15/ cwt.	Finest Levigated "WHITE EARTH" (Toilet purposes).	18/ cwt.
Finest TART ACID	Lowest Cur. Prices	Finest Pure TOILET OATMEAL, SPECIAL	32/ cwt.
Finest Pure LIQUORICE JUICE	1/10 lb.	Finest ARROWROOT	1/ lb.

\* CARRIAGE PAID TO Railway Stations within 200 miles of  
London (or allowance made for distances beyond) on a total weight  
of 112 lbs. and upwards of above articles. Smaller parcels deli-  
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## Editorial Comments.

### A Debt to the United Society.

ALTHOUGH the United Society of Chemists and Druggists has been dead for more than thirty years, there are still alive some who as members of it took an active part in promoting the legislation for the whole body of chemists and druggists which resulted in the Pharmacy Act of 1868. These will be able to tell the President of the Pharmaceutical Society that he is not correct in saying, as he did at Cheltenham last week, that it was owing to the opposition of the United Society that the Pharmaceutical Society's



proposal to restrict the making of medicines, as well as the selling of poisons, to chemists had to be dropped. What happened was this. In 1865 the Pharmaceutical Society introduced a Bill into the House restricting the business of a chemist and druggist, and the dispensing of prescriptions, to those registered; at the same time the United Society introduced a Bill restricting the retailing and dispensing of drugs and medicines (including the poisons scheduled) to registered persons. The United Society thus really went "one better" than the Pharmaceutical Society by including poisons in its effort. Both Bills were referred to a Select Committee of the House of Commons, which in its report considered that the Pharmacy Act, 1852, was sufficient to provide the dispensing chemists required by the country, and recommended that after a date to be fixed by the Legislature no persons should sell poisons except those who were examined and registered. Both Bills and the evidence given before the Committee will be found in the *C. & D.* for 1865. Thus the United Society was no sinner in the dispensing matter; it certainly proposed to give the administration of its suggested law to "the Council of the Chemists and Druggists' Society of England and Wales," which was to be formed by the votes of all registered chemists and druggists. This was very wicked of it, and the Select Committee did not approve of the suggestion. The Act of 1868 was drafted by the Pharmaceutical Council and embodied the United Society's poisons schedule in an improved form. The preamble and first clause of this Bill provided that "persons keeping open shop for the retailing, dispensing, or compounding of poisons, or for the compounding of the prescriptions of duly qualified medical practitioners, and commonly known as chemists and druggists, should possess a competent practical knowledge of their business." This was unanimously agreed to by the United Society on February 5, 1868; a few days later the Home Secretary received a deputation representing both Societies, but when the Bill was introduced into the House of Lords, in May 1868, the italicised phrase in the above quotation had been removed from the preamble and from the first clause. For that the United Society was no more responsible than the Pharmaceutical Society. The United Society was, and had always been, equally desirous of having dispensing restricted to registered persons. We suggest that it is time for representatives of the Pharmaceutical Society to stop saying what it would have done for chemists and druggists if it had not been for the United Society. The influence has been quite the other way, for the Pharmaceutical Society has to thank the United Society for rousing it into the activity that brought about the 1868 Act, which carried with it a provision that has given the Pharmaceutical Society nearly a quarter of a million in examination and registration fees since 1868, and the only piece of legislation it has succeeded in since is the 1898 Act, which legalised another idea of the United Society's (unwittingly resurrected by Mr. R. A. Robinson)—viz., to make every registered person eligible for membership of the Society. If Bloomsbury had put the same energy into the company question as it did into the 1898 effort, we should long since have had the matter on a proper basis.

### The Buyers' Guide.

Our Publisher asks us to call the special attention of advertisers and subscribers alike to the fact that this week the index to advertisements and Buyers' Guide based thereon are shifted considerably further forward in the paper. They begin on the fifth white paper page (*i.e.* p. 7), and henceforth will be found there. This is no doubt a decided improvement, but even more import-

ant, to our thinking, is the fact that the Buyers' Guide has been reset in larger and more distinct type. Advantage has been taken of the resetting to revise the classification of goods, or, rather, of classes of goods, and this has been done as fully as is consistent with the space allotted, which is double what it has hitherto been. We understand that the compilation is based solely upon current advertisements, which, indeed, is the only possible basis for a Guide of this kind. The aim is to give our readers every week a reference-list that will be useful to them in filling orders. It will, of course, be added to as new classes of goods are advertised.

### Smart Work.

On p. 164 of our Winter Issue we printed the subjoined facsimile of a druggist's order:

*Think of course  
of you & Co. it is so for  
the stomach*

We offered three copies of Ince's "Elementary Dispensing Practice" to the first three apprentices who sent in correct renderings. On Monday morning a big bundle of postcards was delivered to us by the first post, amongst them ten giving the correct rendering, which is—

*Citrate of magnesia if you please, it is for the stomach.*

Ten correct replies were in the lot of cards, each of them being duly authenticated by the apprentice's master. We give these in the order they were posted, viz.:

Apprentice's Name	Apprentice's Master	Town	Postmark
G. Robertson	R. F. Hughes	Methil, Fife	Jan. 28, 12 15 p.m.
Alex. Lindsay	W. Leslie	Haddington	" 1.30 ..
J. A. Tod	J. H. Poustie	Galashiels	" 6.15 ..
C. Pickles	J. Spence	Dalry, Ayr	" 7 ..
W. Elleff	J. Rainey	Spilsby	" 7.15 ..
A. Lindsay	D. McNay	Kilmarnock	" 8.30 ..
R. W. Taylor	W. Highley	Rochdale	" 9.15 ..
J. Robinson	J. C. C. Payne	Belfast	" 9.15 ..
T. P. Noble	A. Noble	Galashiels	" 10.15 ..
R. Frayling	J. J. Taylor	Ashford, Kent	Jan. 29, 1.15 ..

Mr. Alexander Lindsay's card bears an endorsement by Mr. Leslie, "*C. & D.* received 11.30 A.M., despatched 11.35 A.M."; so that this card appears to deserve first place. We had not anticipated any interest from the postmarks, or so prompt a response, but it is satisfactory to us to know that the Winter Issue was so promptly delivered in remote parts of the country, and that subscribers are so prompt in getting at the contents. We have sent a copy of Mr. Ince's book to each of the above-named apprentices. The following are other renderings of the order:

Citrate of magnesia if you please it is for the stomach.  
Citrate of magnesia if you please it is for the thirst.  
Extract of cascara (liquid). If you please, it is for the stomach.  
Syrup of aniseed if you please it is for the stomach.  
Syrup of aniseed if you please it is for the thirst.  
Syrup of orange if you please it is for the stomach.  
Syrup of senna if you please it is for the stomach.

The original was sent to us by Mr. D. W. Nicholson, 257A Leith Walk, Leith, whose rendering was what we call the correct one. He wrote: "It was handed in on December 26, and apparently the Christmas dinner had put more than the stomach wrong." It is noteworthy that although not a single subscriber in Scotland figured in our *Diary* prize-list last week, the majority of the prize-winners on this occasion are from the other side of the Border.



### Arsenic by Post.

The successful prosecution by the Pharmaceutical Society of a ratcatcher who has been selling an arsenical rat-killer by post leaves the impression (judging from newspaper accounts) that the man may continue to sell the poison provided the purchasers are known to him. A prosecution under Section 15 would, therefore, have been an advantage, in order to show the public that none but persons registered under the Act may sell arsenic by retail. As the case was taken under Section 17, it may be regarded as evidence that the Pharmaceutical Council adopts the same view about vermin-killers as the prosecutors in the recent Bradford case; but in the present instance special conditions apply to arsenic, and the seller was not a registered person.

### Purifying-pills.

Last year we printed a series of notes on dutiable and non-dutiable titles, based on labels which had been marked by the Stamp Department at Somerset House. Among the labels marked "Liable to duty" was one for "Purifying-pills." Messrs. F. Newbery & Sons, Ltd., on January 18 submitted to the Board of Inland Revenue the following label:

Purifying-pills. Purely Vegetable. The sugar coating preserves the enclosed drugs in a perfectly soluble condition. Dose: One or two at bedtime.

Mr. F. Atterbury, Assistant-Secretary to the Board, returned the label on January 28 marked "Not liable to duty," with the usual covering letter to the same effect.

### Official Approval of Sheep-dips.

Under the Sheep-scab Order of 1905, made on January 27 by the Board of Agriculture and Fisheries, the use of sheep-dips approved by the Board is required. The Sheep-scab Order of 1905 contains the following three recipes for dips which the Board have approved after experimental trials:

(Quantities for 100 gals. of bath.)

1. *Lime and Sulphur*.—Mix 25 lbs. of flowers of sulphur with 12½ lbs. of good quicklime. Triturate the mixture with water until a smooth cream without lumps is obtained. Transfer this to a boiler capable of boiling 20 gals., bring the volume of the cream to 20 gals. by the addition of water, boil and stir during half an hour. The liquid should now be of a dark red colour; if yellowish, continue the boiling until the dark red colour is obtained, keeping the volume at 20 gals. After the liquid has cooled, decant it from any small quantity of insoluble residue, and make up the volume to 100 gals. with water.

2. *Carbolic Acid and Soft Soap*.—Dissolve 5 lbs. of good soft soap, with gentle warming, in 3 quarts of liquid carbolic acid (containing not less than 97 per cent. of real tar acid). Mix the liquid with enough water to make 100 gals.

3. *Tobacco and Sulphur*.—Steep 35 lbs. of finely ground tobacco (offal tobacco) in 21 gals. of water for four days. Strain off the liquid, and remove the last portions of the extract by pressing the residual tobacco. Mix the whole extract, and to it add 10 lbs. of flowers of sulphur. Stir the mixture well to secure an even admixture, and make up the total bulk to 100 gals. with water.

NOTE.—The period of immersion in these dips should not be less than half a minute.

The Board are prepared to receive applications from manufacturers of any sheep-dip for approval of their products and have arranged that any analytical examination necessary to verify the stated composition of the dips submitted to them shall be made at the Government Laboratory. Forms of application for the approval of a dip may be obtained from the Secretary, Board of Agriculture and Fisheries, 4 Whitehall Place, London, S.W.

### Formula on Label.

The New Zealand regulations as to giving the formula of proprietary medicines on the label are actively engaging attention, both in this country and New Zealand. An interesting commentary on a possible effect of such regulations,

if enforced, is given in a communication we have received from the manufacturers of one of the best-known British proprietary articles. The country to which the two consignments of medicines were exported was Russia, and the note is incidentally an illustration of commercial methods in that part of Europe.

(1) *August 3, 1904*.—16½ dozen of the proprietary article were sent to Moscow, net value of the goods 13*l.* 7*s.* 4*d.*

*August 27, 1904*.—Notice received that medicines must have the formula on the label, and no bills around the bottles, not even instructions for using. This notice was received after the goods of August 3 had been despatched.

*September 6, 1904*.—Informed that the goods had been detained at the Russian Customs.

*September 19, 1904*.—Instructed our customers to return the goods, as we refuse to place the formula upon the bottles.

*January 30, 1905*.—Goods received back, with charges 7*l.* 17*s.* to pay.

Another instance:

(2) *January 9, 1905*.—Three dozen of the proprietary article, 1*s.* size, ordered for Warsaw, to be sent by parcels-post in three parcels.

*January 30, 1905*.—Notice received that the net weight of the liquid means net weight of the liquid, wrappers, bottles—everything excepting the wooden box containing the bottles—and a fine of 17*s.* was levied on each parcel. Of course, the importer refused to pay the fine, and we refuse to take back the goods, but, as the importer was an old customer, we refunded him the sum he had prepaid for the goods, and our loss is the value of the consignment.

### Foreign Import-duties.

Exporters of chemicals, oils, painters' colours, and allied articles will be interested in the rates of import-duties levied in European countries, the United States, Japan, China, and Persia, upon the produce and manufactures of the United Kingdom, which have just been published in the form of a Blue-book (*C'd.* 2,340, price 2*s.*). The return is brought up to date and embodies such alterations in the Customs-tariffs as have been notified to the Board of Trade since the publication of its last issue at the end of 1903. Thirteen pages of the report are devoted to the duties on chemicals on importation to the above-mentioned countries, and they include alkali, alum, arsenic, bleaching-materials, refined borax, brimstone, copperas, Epsom salts, sal ammoniac, saltpetre, and salt. The duties levied in Russia throughout the schedule are higher than those of any other country—*e.g.*, refined borax, which is worth from 13*s.* to 15*s.* per cwt., bears a tax equivalent to 11*s.* 10*d.* per cwt., while in Germany, Holland, Belgium, Sweden, Norway, and Roumania there is no tax whatever. The United States, however, places a duty of 23*s.* 4*d.* per cwt. on borax, which fact has enabled the borax monopoly in the United States to have matters practically all its own way, to the disgust of distributors and consumers. How this tariff operates is shown by the fact that only 640 cwt. of borax was imported into the United States during the fiscal year ended June, 1904. Sal ammoniac pays in Russia 14*s.* 7½*d.* per cwt., and in the United States 3*s.* 6*d.* Among the more important alterations in the tariffs is an increase in the duties on various kinds of perfumery imported into Switzerland, and these are set out in detail. Export perfumers have now an opportunity of seeing at a glance the various rates of duties applying to individual countries. The war in the Far East has had its effect on the rates imposed by Japan, and under the head of a war-tax that country has made temporary additions to the import-duties on various articles which were referred to in *THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST* of December 31, 1904, page 1061. The Customs-tariff of Persia is included in the return for the first time. It may be mentioned that the new tariffs framed by Russia, Germany, Austria-Hungary, and Switzerland are not yet in operation, and consequently the duties contained therein are not included in the present return.



## Trade Notes.

"FORCE IN ADVERTISING" is the title of an attractively got-up booklet which comes to us from Mr. S. H. Benson, advertisers' agent, 1 Tudor Street, E.C. It comprises three sections—"Steps in Advertising, the need of Force in each"; photographs of Mr. Benson's offices with notes on his methods and "Points about 'Copy'; the Difference between Weak and Forceful Advertisements." The whole is illustrated by a collection of some of the most successful advertisements of different types.

"THE BUSINESS MOTOR" for January, issued by Messrs. Newball & Mason, Nottingham, contains some original and useful advertising-hints. The special offer of mint sauce, gravy salt, and Mason's coffee-essence on sale or return is still made.

CLEAN-SHAVEN MEN.—The result of the competition organised by the proprietors of Wright's coal-tar soap as to the proportion of clean-shaven men has just been announced. The consensus of opinion is that 1,702 men in each 10,000 are clean-shaven.

THE R.E.P. BOOK.—Messrs. Elliman, Sons & Co., of Slough, had a whole-page advertisement in several of last Saturday's morning newspapers, dealing especially with the R.E.P. book, which is now advertised as being obtainable from chemists.

"SELL'S TELEGRAPHIC ADDRESSES."—The "leading firms" of the United Kingdom number, according to Mr. Henry Sell, of 166 Fleet Street, E.C., just about eighty thousand. They are leading firms mainly because they have telegraphic addresses, and these are contained in the portly volume just issued. The work has grown to over 2,200 pages, and contains every new telegraphic address or alteration registered at the Post Office up to December 31.

"WINCO" PUMPS.—The Berkefeld Filter Co., Ltd., 121 Oxford Street, W., have recently placed on the English market the "Winco" semi-rotary wing pumps, and supply them in a variety of patterns and sizes. The pumps are suitable for any purpose where it is desired to lift liquids, and chemists who require such an apparatus should send for a copy of the newly issued list, where full particulars of prices and illustrations are given.

1905 CAMERAS.—The January number of "Camera House Journal," which is issued by Messrs. W. Butcher & Sons, Camera House, Farringdon Avenue, E.C., contains notes on the improvements the firm have made in their well-known series of cameras as well as particulars of some new instruments. Photographic dealers should also note that the series of lists intended to be issued by the trade are ready, and that orders are now being taken for delivery on March 1.

MILK-SUGAR.—A *propos* of a suggestion recently made that chemists should distribute suitable pamphlets giving unbiased instructions as to the best methods of infant-feeding, the Pioneer Milk Sugar Co., of 24 Minorities, London, E.C., send us a specimen of a neat little sixteen-page booklet which seems to meet all reasonable requirements.

VINOLIA NOVELTIES.—We have received from the Vinolia Co., Ltd., samples of the new "Bay Rhum" shaving-stick and "Bay Rhum" shaving-cake. They seem up to the Vinolia standard of excellence, both in quality and in remunerative properties for the retail chemist. The shaving-stick is in a push-bottom tin tube of decorated design, and judging by touch and smell, but without actual experiment on the editorial stubble, it should be a desirable factor to an easy shave. It is claimed to give a profuse lather of choice fragrance, and to be specially suitable for tender skins owing to the absence of any irritating action on the

cuticle or dulling effect on the razor. Face-value is 1s. a stick, minimum price is 10d., and trade-price is 6s. a dozen, subject. The "Bay Rhum" shaving-cake is in a neat art-design paper carton, and seems to be of the same quality as the stick already described. The selling-price is 6d., and the trade-price 4s. a dozen, subject to the usual Vinolia discount.



## Business Changes.

Properly authenticated business notices (not being advertisements) are inserted in this section free of charge if promptly communicated to the Editor

THE Angel Drug-stores are about to be opened at 196 St. John Street Road, Clerkenwell, E.C.

MESSRS. JAMES JONES & Co., chemists, late of Winton, have removed to 4 Holdenhurst Road, Bournemouth.

MESSRS. PIESSE & LUBIN have removed from 2 New Bond Street to 28 South Molton Street, W.

PARKE'S DRUG-STORES, LTD., have removed their Peckham branch from 120 to more extensive premises at 114 Rye Lane, S.E.

MESSRS. J. McQUEEN & SONS, Addiscombe, Croydon, proprietors of the A.B.C. bookkeeping system, have removed to Devana Road, Leicester.

MESSRS. REECE & Co., dispensing chemists, announce their intention of shortly removing from 168 Piccadilly, S.W., to 32 Bury Street, St. James's, S.W.

MR. J. A. BETTLE, chemist and druggist, St. James's Road, Upper Tooting, S.W., has sold his business to Messrs. Rowe & Co., Lower Road, Rotherhithe, S.E.

MR. C. E. DODSLEY, chemist and druggist, Hargreaves Street, Burnley, and late of Manchester Road, has disposed of his business to Mr. Bracewell, of Ramsbottom, near Manchester.

MR. J. F. WOOTTON, chemist and druggist, has sold his business at 52 Derby Street, Newcastle-on-Tyne, to Mr. E. G. Power, and his branch in Church Street to Mr. G. Armstrong. Mr. Wootton will shortly open a new shop in Jesmond Road.

## Trade-marks Applied For.

Objections to the registration of any of the undermentioned applications should be lodged with C. N. Dalton, Esq., C.B., Comptroller-General of Patents, Designs, and Trade-marks, at the Patents Office, 25 Southampton Buildings, Chancery Lane, London, W.C., within one month of the dates mentioned. The objection must be stated on Trade-marks Form J, cost £1, obtainable through any money-order office.

(From the "Trade-marks Journal," January 18, 1905.)

"FIXOL" ("Fix" disclaimed) and device of a man in the stocks; for chemicals. By the Vulite Co., Ltd., 25 Euston Square, London, N.W. 267,188.

"PERHYDROL"; for a chemical. By E. Merck, Frankfurterstrasse 220, Darmstadt, Germany. 267,554.

"FORTOSSAN" and device of a woman gathering plants; for chemicals. By the Society of Chemical Industry in Basle, 151 Klübeckstrasse, Basle. 267,572, 267,574.

"ALVYN"; for an anæsthetic. By the Farbenfabriken vorm. Friedrich Bayer & Co., Elberfeld, Germany. 268,134.

"TETIC"; for an indigestion, biliousness, etc., cure. By J. Phillips, The Arch, Edzell, Forfarshire. 268,324.

"LITHOGEN"; for a chemical. By Willows, Francis, Butler & Thompson, Ltd., 40 Aldersgate Street, London, E.C. 268,138.

"RANKIN & Co."; for a fluid extract of senna-pods. By Rankin & Co., Mill Street, Kilmarnock. 268,581.

"CHILBOLINE"; for a medicine. By R. S. Tickell, 61 Blesington Road, Lewisham, London, S.E.

Device of an anchor and letters "F. X. M."; for measures. By F. X. Masot, 24 Avenue des Casernes, Brussels. 267,051.

"ADOS"; for a carbon-dioxide apparatus. By Sanders, Rehders & Co., 108 Fenchurch Street, London, E.C. 268,309.

"ANDREWSIA"; for a truss. By A. S. Andrews & Sons, Ltd., 33 Higham Hill Road, Walthamstow, Essex. 268,221.

"ZIP"; for aerated waters. By Bewley & Draper, Ltd., 23 Mary Street, Dublin. 268,189.

Device of a safe; for mineral and aerated waters. By the Reliable Mineral-water Co., Ltd., 9 Wassail Place, Swansea. 268,519.

"RETEP" and shield device; for perfumery. By P. Tensfeldt, 7 Maurice Place, Edinburgh. 268,080.

"POITE"; for perfumery, etc. By S. H. Ward, 9 Harp Lane, London, E.C. 268,274.



## Festivities.

### On London Bridge.

THE staff and employés of Mr. Robert Blackie, wholesale and retail chemist, of Shen Works, Tower Bridge Road, S.E., and various branches throughout London, met in Bridge House Hotel, London Bridge, S.E., January 26, at what is hoped will be the first annual staff dinner. The company included the wives and friends of the principal, the branch managers, and assistants, and some forty covers were laid. The principal feature of the evening was the presentation, on behalf of the employés, by Mr. John King, warehouse manager, of a magnificent service of silver plate to Mr. and Mrs. R. Blackie. Mr. Blackie acknowledged the gift, which he recognised as a tribute to the success of his efforts to carry co-operation between himself and his servants into the business of which he was the head. The dinner was followed by a concert, at which items were contributed by Miss Barrett, and by Messrs. King, Chance, Fairweather, Tanner, and Raymond. The success of the evening was in large measure due to the organising abilities of Mr. King and Mr. R. Langlands Innes.

### The Belfast Concert.

THE annual musical evening of the Chemists' and Druggists' Society of Ireland took place on January 26, in the Ulster Hall, Belfast. The hall, which seats 2,000 persons, was full, many people having to stand from want of room. Sir James H. Haslett, M.P., the President of the Society, was to have been in the chair, but was not sufficiently recovered to occupy the position. In his place Mr. William Jamison, M.C.P.S.I., was voted to the chair. Mr. Jamison opened the proceedings with a short speech, in which he marvelled at the boldness of the committee in taking such a big hall for the concert, but judged from the size of the audience and the excellence of the programme that the committee's action was quite justified. The committee in charge of the musical arrangements consisted of Messrs. S. Acheson, N. J. Gibson, R. A. Jameson, A. R. Hogg, J. Brown, S. Edgar Lee, W. J. Busby, W. J. Rankin, S. Suffern, and John Frackleton. The entertainment was a great success, the selections being enthusiastically received.

### Salubritas et Eruditio.

THE first annual dinner of the Cheltenham and District Chemists' Association took place at the Queen's Hotel, Cheltenham, on Thursday evening, January 26. Mr. Wm. Barron (President), who was in the chair, was supported by Mr. R. A. Robinson, President of the Pharmaceutical Society, and Mr. R. Bremridge, as well as the following members: Messrs. Freshfield Reynolds (Vice-President), F. T. Palmer (Treasurer), J. A. Thomas (Hon. Secretary), J. Chambers, A. Hill, J. Stewart, T. Pattison, A. C. Saxby, Wm. Palmer, W. Slatter, H. B. Clark, F. N. King, C. James, W. H. Hill, J. Balcomb, W. Rutherford, H. Hands, G. Billings, Dr. Affleck, Dr. Moriarty, C. Trump, F. W. Trump, Middleton Barron, A. P. Arber, D. Lloyd, Wm. Lloyd, R. E. Lyne, T. Dolman, R. T. Jeffs, H. Wilkins, T. H. Hawley (all of Cheltenham), Wm. Munchen, T. R. Millman, H. Hargreaves, J. Ward, H. Broad (Gloucester), L. L. Stroud, A. Enoch, Wm. Jones (Tewkesbury), F. H. Horniblow (Worcester), A. Lee Hall Winchcombe, J. and E. Brume (Bristol), and F. R. Bower (Cinderford). After dinner and the loyal toasts, the Chairman, in toasting the prosperity of the Pharmaceutical Society and the health of the President, sang the praises of Cheltenham, whose motto, "Salubritas et Eruditio," aptly describes its leading characteristics. The town covers a larger area in proportion to its 50,000 inhabitants than perhaps any other town in the Kingdom. It is true that occasionally people do die there, but life passes in Cheltenham so easily and smoothly that in very old age people glide almost imperceptibly from this world into the next without having provided themselves beforehand with that amount of pharmaceutical pabulum necessary for salvation. (Applause.) This is very hard upon the poor chemists, though not so detrimental to the undertakers. The five colleges and other educational establishments of the town prove also that the motto of

"Eruditio" is no empty boast. The town has also interesting associations with pharmacy. Here the immortal Jenner practised and perfected his system of vaccination; and here, also, the famous firm of Savory & Moore had its origin. (Applause.) Having referred to the visits of previous Presidents of the Pharmaceutical Society, he introduced the chief guest of the evening. The toast was honoured with great cordiality, and Mr. Robinson, in reply, told the members how the Pharmaceutical Society progressed during 1904, and acknowledged the assistance that local chemists' associations are as feeders of the Society. He complimented Mr. J. Arden Thomas on the good work he had done locally in inviting chemists together, and then referred to what the Pharmaceutical Society is doing in organising the trade, chiefly through its internal arrangements. He also touched upon the rearrangement of Council work, whereby the President is no longer the chairman of every committee, and proceeded to speak about pharmacy legislation. In the course of his remarks on this topic Mr. Robinson expressed the belief that the original intention of the 1868 Act was to restrict the making of medicine as well as the selling of poisons to chemists, but, owing to the opposition of the United Society, the first-mentioned object had to be dropped. Let them take warning and avoid disunion over the new Pharmacy Bill. If they were not united in going to Parliament to ask for an amendment of the law, there was not the faintest chance of their succeeding. He explained why there was no chance of the old Clause 7 passing, and the terms of the new clause, which, he added, the Privy Council has approved. Mr. Robinson also referred to the other provisions in the Bill, saying that the curriculum clause would be for the benefit of chemists and the public. At present it is a great strain upon a young man to have to pass in all subjects at the same time, and it would be of immense advantage to students to be able to produce a certificate showing they had undergone proper teaching and a regular course of lectures under duly qualified instructors.

Mr. Freshfield Reynolds, in proposing a vote of thanks to Mr. Robinson and Mr. Bremridge, remarked that, whether they succeeded in passing Clause 7 in an amended form or not, they would always have to contend with this unfairness in connection with the limited-liability companies, that the profits made on the sale of mops, brooms, and other things were utilised to enable the companies to undersell the man engaged in the legitimate business of a chemist. But he believed the greatest weapon with which they could fight these illegitimate traders, as he called them, was the personal one. If a man was to be found personally attending to his business behind the counter and selling the best article he could produce, that would tell in the long run. (Hear, hear.) He hoped one effect of the introduction of the scheme of education would be to induce young men entering the profession to resolve not to support limited companies which undermined the legitimate part of their trade. Mr. L. L. Stroud seconded the vote, which was carried by acclamation.

Mr. Robinson, in reply, said it is most important to insist on one of the directors of a company selling drugs being a registered person, because without such qualification there would be nothing in the world to prevent grocers, tailors, and every other trader converting their businesses into limited-liability companies and opening a chemist's business provided they employed a qualified assistant. This would involve a complete reversal of the policy of the Act of 1868, which requires that the "owner" of the business must be a qualified person. If in the future all that is insisted on is that the assistant should be qualified, he feared a poor outlook for the trade. He admitted that it would not be difficult for a company to make an assistant, by giving him a few shares, a director, so as to satisfy the proposed clause, but the clause as he had explained it is the utmost they could get, and they must depend upon the loyalty of their men for the rest. Mr. Bremridge also replied.

Mr. J. A. Thomas, in responding to the toast of the Association, said the membership is sixty-one. Some business was then done. Mr. Palmer submitted the balance-sheet. The receipts had been 19*l.* 5*s.* 6*d.*, and the balance in hand was 10*l.* 18*s.* 1*d.* Mr. Thomas's report as secretary dealt with the work of the past session. Both were adopted and the Association adjourned until February 24.



### Sheffield Pharmacy Athletic Club.

A VERY successful smoking-concert in connection with the above club was held at the Carlton Restaurant, Sheffield, on January 26. Captain Vallance occupied the chair, and was supported by Mr. C. S. Richards, Hon. Secretary of the club. Captain Vallance proposed the toasts "The King" and "The Club," and spoke of the advantages of moderate athletics to both employer and employees. Mr. Gilbert Jackson, President of the Club, replied, and referred to the enthusiasm and support with which the Club had been received. He invited the honorary members to attend the matches. Their presence would encourage the players and provide an outing for themselves. Mr. Gilbert Jackson, in proposing "The Health of the Chairman," commented on Captain Vallance's connection with the Auxiliary forces, and congratulated him on his recent promotion to the captaincy of the cycle corps of the 2nd V.B. Derbyshire Regiment. Captain Vallance, in responding, asked for the sympathies of pharmacists with the Volunteer movement, saying that the new orders from the War Office were not sufficiently elastic to favour recruiting. He was, however, pleased to say that in the corps to which he had the honour to belong no ill effects were visible at present—in fact, his battalion was 1,400 strong. Pianoforte duets, musical monologues, songs both sentimental and humorous, shadowgraphy, and ventriloquism filled a well-received programme. Captain Vallance contributed two songs. Mr. R. D. Douglas proposed "The Artistes," which was replied to by Mr. E. E. Haylegrave, who had done yeoman service in contributing to the programme. The concert was very well attended, and was one of the most successful ever held in connection with Sheffield pharmacy.

### An Exeter Supper.

THE annual supper of the Exeter Association of Chemists and Druggists was held at the Guildhall Restaurant, Exeter, on February 1. The President (Mr. J. W. Lake) presided and there were also present Alderman H. Gadd, J.P., Messrs. J. Hinton Lake, A. D. Breeze (Plymouth), F. Donald Wilson, E. Lemmon, H. J. Parsons, T. H. Owles, E. H. Welsford, D. Reid, T. C. Milton, F. Sloman, H. Wippell Gadd (Hon. Secretary), W. F. Pearce, Alan H. Ware, J. Harris, Weston Aplin, W. Fletcher Gadd, Symons, and F. B. Chapman.

Mr. A. D. Breeze proposed "The Association," and in the course of his speech referred to the great difficulty there was in getting apprentices. He put it down to the long hours. Next Mr. Breeze spoke of the evil of self-medication, and finished by stating that the chemists of to-day are looked up to a great deal more than the chemists were many years ago. They are of better standing and in a better position, and no doubt in minor ailments the public put as much faith in the chemist as the ordinary doctor.

The Chairman replied. He said that in the days of such worthies as Knott, Milton, sen., Palke, and Cooper there was an association in Exeter which did good work, but unfortunately there are no records of their doings. The society was resuscitated in 1890, its after history being reviewed by the speaker and topical subjects dealt with.

Alderman Henry Gadd, J.P., proposed "The Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain." The state of affairs which was at present causing a certain amount of discontent amongst chemists was somewhat the fault of the chemists themselves, speaking of them as a class. The slavery of long hours was of the chemists' own making. They had been too much the servants of the public, who might ring them up any hour of the day or night, Sundays or bank-holidays, feast days or fast days. During the seventeen years he was behind the chemist's counter he had some of the sweets of labour when working from eight o'clock in the morning till twelve at night, and from eight to ten Sundays. Referring to the new Clause 7, the speaker said it was a clause which could be got through if chemists showed a very strong front to the House of Commons. The clause which gave power to the Society to impose a curriculum needed careful watching. If a curriculum was imposed it should have wide limits and should be allowed to be spread over the period of apprenticeship and to be taken concurrently with business training. Local colleges and schools must be freely recognised as places of instruction.

Mr. D. Reid (local Secretary of the Pharmaceutical Society) replied. He said the Council were honestly endeavouring to grapple with questions of pharmacy. The new Pharmacy Bill would more clearly define the position of chemists, and the registration of shops, together with the name of the *bona fide* qualified principal or manager, of such, was a good feature. The only question to his mind was that the Bill did not go far enough. He would have preferred that the original clause should remain and the Act be made prospective only. This would have entailed no hardship on anyone, and simply because a wrong existed he saw no reason why a wrong should remain.

Mr. J. Harris (Hon. Treasurer) proposed "Our Visitors" and Mr. F. Donald Wilson responded.

Mr. T. C. Milton gave "The Honorary Secretary," and spoke of Mr. H. Wippell Gadd as becoming one of the leading men in the pharmaceutical world.

Mr. H. Wippell Gadd suitably replied.

Songs and recitations were given during the evening and the company separated with the singing of "Auld Lang Syne" and "God Save the King."

### Newcastle Chemists' Association.

THE annual dinner of this Society is now an established feature of Tyneside pharmaceutical life, and it is to the credit of the craft there that they share the pleasures of the table with their fair friends. Thus it was a goodly gathering that met on Wednesday evening at the Hotel Metropole, when Mr. George Foggan (President) took the chair, Mr. C. Ridley and Mr. W. Pescod being vice-chairmen. Mr. R. H. Bell, Mr. Golightly and Mr. Mitchinson (of the Sunderland Society) supported the President on one side and on the other were Mr. MacEwan (Editor of *THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST*), Mr. T. Maltby Clague, Mr. Kerse, and Mr. G. F. Merson. There were also present Messrs. Simpson (Wilkinson & Simpson), George Weddell, Dunderidge, Wootton, Brand, Dakers, Gilderdale, Wright, and Ismay (Newcastle-on-Tyne). There were chemists from neighbouring towns—altogether sixty being present, the best attendance for some years; this being due, it was agreed, to the honour the Association was doing to Mr. G. F. Merson, an ex-Secretary and President of the Association. After an excellent dinner the President gave the toast of "The King"; and, in the hands of Mr. Weddell, that of "The Pharmaceutical Society" seemed equally loyal. One or two points which are landmarks in the history of the Society he mentioned; first, that it is an institution typical of a free country, formed by the people themselves without the aid of the Government, and such institutions characterise England as a free country. Upon their number and strength depends the stability of the country itself. The second point which Mr. Weddell enumerated was, in essence, the charter of the Society, and in this connection he commended the good done through the benevolent fund. In speaking of pharmaceutical legislation in the past, Mr. Weddell showed himself to be intimately informed. Mr. F. Schofield, Divisional Secretary for Morpeth, was heartily cheered when he rose to reply, and in acknowledgment spoke briefly but appreciatively of the Society's objects, but he said he had felt for many years that the leaders never got into touch with those who helped it in the provinces; in fact, he felt like saying, "Lo, these many years have I served thee, but thou hast not given me a kid" (laughter). In consequence of their lack of appreciation of the wants of those in a totally different class of trade from most of the councillors, thus far the Society had been out of touch with the body of chemists in the country, but he attributed this in a measure to chemists not taking part in the Society's work. He considered that no society in the country has done so much for education as has the Pharmaceutical Society, and none have outdone it in benevolence. (Hear, hear.) The next toast was "The Trade Press," Mr. Gilderdale giving it and Mr. MacEwan replying. Then came the event of the evening, the presentation to Mr. G. F. Merson, and the sentiments of the Association were voiced by Mr. Clague, who, the President said, as a Manxman, combined the oratorical qualities of the adjacent islands. Mr. Merson, he said, went to Newcastle in 1889, and his sterling qualities were soon manifested in the formation of an Assistants' Association, of which he was the life and soul. Then, when the present



Association was formed, the man who did the real work of organisation was Mr. Merson, and he very largely shaped its fortunes and assured its success. As Secretary of the Federation of Pharmaceutical Associations he had done a national work. (Hear, hear.) Mr. Clague also referred to the school (now Mr. Dudderidge's) founded by Mr. Merson, and paid a warm personal tribute to his intrinsic merit, saying that there is no higher honour in pharmacy than that which has recently been paid to him by his appointment as a member of the B.P. Revision Committee. The gift comprised a roll-top desk with a silver-plate inscription recording that it was from his Tyneside friends. The health of Mr. and Mrs. Merson was then toasted, with musical honours. In acknowledging the gift, Mr. Merson said the sixteen years he had spent in Newcastle had been, and would remain, the happiest of his life, and he confessed that it was a great wrench for him to leave the town. He recalled the fact that the last occasion on which the Association made a presentation was when it honoured the late Mr. Barnard Proctor, a man to whose work on "Pharmacy" he owed much, and was especially touched with the fact that his old colleagues had done him a similar honour. A feeling speech was concluded in a round of cheers. "The Ladies" gave Mr. R. H. Bell an opportunity of which he was not slow to take advantage, both Shakespeare and Sir Walter Scott assisting him in expressing the happiness which a good woman can bring to men. Mr. C. E. Layne replied, as "a thorough ladies' man." The toast of "The Association" was given by Mr. Barker, of Hartlepool, and acknowledged by Mr. Kerse and Mr. C. S. Ellington. "The Visitors" and "The President" were also honoured. Throughout the evening an exceptionally good and full musical programme, arranged by Mr. R. Wright, was gone through. Those who contributed were Messrs. Bonsor, Kerse, jun., Lucas, J. Hill (cello), F. Mace, and others.

### Edinburgh Chemists' Dance.

UNDER the auspices of the Edinburgh Chemists', Assistants', and Apprentices' Association, the Edinburgh District Chemists' Trade Association, and the Pharmacy Athletic Club, a dance was held in the Kintore Rooms, 74 Queen Street, on February 1. It was the first function which has been promoted by the combined Associations, and the success which attended it was more than equal to the anticipations formed of it. Quite a hundred ladies and gentlemen were present. Mr. James Nesbit (Portobello) and Mr. G. H. C. Rowland (Secretary of the Edinburgh District Chemists' Trade Association) officiated as M.C.s, and Mr. R. McDougall and Mr. G. D. Thomson (Secretary of the Edinburgh Chemists', Assistants', and Apprentices' Association and convener of the Dance Committee) were the stewards. Among others present were Mr. P. Boa (Chairman of the Dance Committee), Mr. A. Currie, Leith (President of the Edinburgh Chemists', Assistants', and Apprentices' Association), Mr. J. R. Hill, Mr. Taylor (of Messrs. Burroughs Wellcome & Co.), and Mr. Taylor (of Messrs. Parke, Davis & Co.). The committee had arranged a programme of eighteen dances. Mr. Boa took the opportunity to propose "Success to the Dance." The combined Associations had, he said, gone about their first venture in this direction in a very unostentatious way. In its field it had been the first effort in combination in these days of combinations. He had no doubt it would have its advantage in bringing the members of the Associations together in a social way, and he hoped it would prove to be the first of a long series of annual events of the same kind. Mr. Boa's sentiments were cordially received.

MESSRS. PHILIP JOSEPHS & SON, 93 Old Street, E.C., are fitting up a large shop for Mr. J. M. Rees at Redhill, which is to be ready in about three weeks. Another chemist's shop which this firm have in hand is that of Mr. Wade at Wealdstone.

CONGRESS OF CHEMISTRY.—The Organising Committee of the Congress of Chemistry and Pharmacy, which is to be held at Liège in July in connection with the Liège International Exhibition, has issued a circular inviting foreign chemists and pharmacists to be present or to contribute papers. The fee for membership is 10f. Forms of application may be obtained from the Secretariat du Congrès, 16 Place de Carmes, Liège.

## Personalities.

MR. T. EDWARD LESCHER, of Messrs. Evans Sons Lescher & Webb, Ltd., left for a business trip to South Africa on January 28, per s.s. *Saxon*.

MR. ALDERMAN E. S. WOOTTON, J.P., chemist and druggist, Margate, has been elected Vice-President of the Isle of Thanet Liberal Association.

MR. ALDERMAN C. E. FOX (W. Fox & Sons, of Bethnal Green) is a "Passive Resister," and certain articles of his have been distrained upon and sold at Whitechapel.

MR. FREDK. THOS. HUNT, of the firm of Hunt Bros., chemical-manufacturers, Castleford, has been placed on the Commission of the Peace for the West Riding of Yorkshire.

MR. S. GOLDHILL, 124 Houndsditch, is to be entertained at a dinner in connection with his recent election, at the head of the poll, for the ward of Portsoken on the Common Council.

The residence in Westminster of Mr. T. Lough, M.P., who is to introduce the Pharmacy Bill, was on the evening of January 29 entered, and jewellery to the value of 200l. was stolen.

MR. SYDNEY JAMES BUCKLE, who passed the Major examination last month, and who was entered in the official list as of London, is the son of Mr. James Buckle, chemist and druggist, Malton.

MR. A. S. CAMPKIN, member of the Council of the Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain and Mayor of Cambridge, was on January 26 elected an Alderman of the city of which he is Mayor.

IN the paragraph *re* Messrs. William Blain & Sons in this column last week, for "Bradford" read "Belton." The firm are in business at 25 Market Street, Bolton, and Mr. William Blain was also born in that town.

SIR JOSEPH AND LADY SWAN have left town for the Riviera. Sir Joseph has just resigned the presidency of the Faraday Society, to which he was elected in 1903 as first President, being succeeded by Lord Kelvin, who was one of the Vice-Presidents.

MR. R. T. FORBES, chemist and druggist, Edgeley, Stockport, President of the Stockport Burns Club, presided at the dinner held at the George Hotel on Burns night last week, and, in giving "The Immortal Memory of Robert Burns," delivered an appreciation of the poet's services to Scottish song and patriotism.

It is announced that Mr. John Morgan Richards has sold the "Academy" to Sir George Newnes. Referring to the event the "Methodist Times" says: "In appearance Mr. Richards is a venerable figure. Though he has been in London for many years, he still preserves his American characteristics. There is nothing of the hustling Yankee about him, notwithstanding his long connection with the patent-medicine trade. To see him seated in his office on the Holborn Viaduct one would almost imagine that he had just come over from Emerson's home at Concord."

## New Books.

These notes do not necessarily exclude subsequent reviews of the works. Any of these books can be supplied, at the published price, to readers of this journal on application (with remittance) to the Publisher of "The Chemist and Druggist," 42 Cannon Street, London, E.C.

Hampson, W., *Radium Explained*. Illus. 7¼×4¾. Pp. 132. 1s. net. (Jack.)

Mendeléeff, D., *Principles of Chemistry*. 3rd English edit. Transl. from Russian (7th edit.) by George Kamensky. 2 vols. 8vo. 32s. net. (Longmans.)

Lamborn, L.L., *Cotton-seed Products. Manual of Treatment of Cotton-seed for its Products and their Utilisation in the Arts*. 9¾×6¼. Pp. 254. 12s. 6d. net. (Constable.)

Macfarlane, W., *Laboratory Notes on Practical Metallurgy*. 7½×4½. Pp. 150. 2s. 6d. (Longmans.)

Nave, J., *Collector's Handy-Book of Algae, Desmids, Fungi, Lichens, Mosses, etc., Instructions for their Preparation and for Formation of Herbarium*. 7½×5. Pp. 214. 3s. 6d. (Routledge.)



## Births.

**READ.**—At 15 Hogarth Road, South Kensington, S.W., the wife of Lawrence J. Read, of a son.

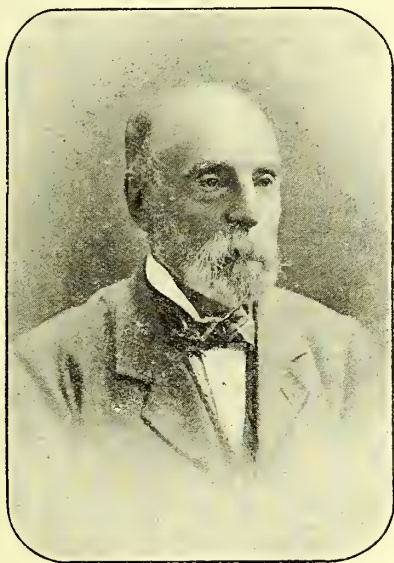
**ROYLE.**—At 16 Sarre Road, West Hampstead, on January 31, the wife of John W. Royle (Messrs. Ingram & Royle, Ltd.), of a son.

## Marriage.

**JONES—RUGG.**—At Brixton Hill Wesleyan Church, on January 24, by the Rev. E. Lyndon, Edgar A. Jones, pharmaceutical chemist, Ripley, to Beatrice A. Rugg, Clapham, S.W.

## Deaths.

**BEW.**—In our Coloured Supplement of last week we made the brief announcement that Mr. John Bew had passed away. The deceased gentleman was a well-known figure in the drug-trade up to his retiral from active business



rather more than four years ago. At the time of his death he was in his seventy-fifth year, having been born at Selby, in Yorkshire, in 1830. An apprenticeship to the drug-trade with Messrs. Walker & Ibeson, of his native town, was followed by experience in larger centres. In 1864, after a few years spent in Manchester, he came to London and secured the appointment of North of England representative for the firm of William Langton & Co., of 15 Laurence Pountney Lane. He remained with this house through successive changes in firm style, including the last and present designation of Harker, Stagg & Morgan, Ltd. He continued in harness until September 1899, when he had almost completed the allotted span of three score and ten years. His long career was spent in hard, strenuous work. In his department he was a man of conspicuous ability. His sound judgment was the fruit of a wide experience of men and matters, and was always at the service of business and private friends. To a sterling integrity he united a geniality of disposition which won for him wide popularity and gained him an appreciative circle of warm friends. His death took place at Askern Hydropathic, near Doncaster, whither he had gone to spend some days. His illness was not at first considered serious, but grave symptoms manifested themselves, and he succumbed a few days after seizure. He was interred in Manchester Southern Cemetery, and his obsequies were assisted by many old personal friends, including Mr. Stagg, Mr. T. Kerfoot, Mr. Tyson, Mr. G. T. W. Newsholme, Mr. J. Smiley, Mr. Kerfoot,

jun., Mr. T. Bushby, Mr. C. Swinn, and Mr. J. W. Hardman.

**BLADES.**—At Northwich, on January 26, Mr. Charles Mountain Blades, chemist and druggist, aged seventy-eight. The deceased gentleman was born at Boston. For some years he had been a member of the Northwich Board of Guardians, and at the time of his death was a manager of the Northwich Savings Bank. Mr. Blades was registered as in business before the passing of the Pharmacy Act, but his practice was that of an analytical chemist.

**CHALMERS.**—At 5 Minet Avenue, Harlesden, N.W., on January 31, Jeanie, wife of William Chalmers (of the editorial staff of THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST), aged thirty-five.

**CUTHBERTSON.**—At 19 Belhaven Terrace, Glasgow, on January 26, Sir John Neilson Cuthbertson, LL.D., etc., chemical and produce broker, aged seventy-five. Sir John was educated at the Glasgow High School and the University, and also studied at the College Royal of Versailles. He was one of Glasgow's most devoted citizens, giving much time to the furtherance of education. He had been Chairman of the School Board for fifteen years, and was a Governor of the local Technical College. He was a good friend to the Society of Chemical Industry. The knighthood was conferred upon him in 1887.

**DUTTON.**—At Bolton, on January 30, Mr. Francis Dutton, chemist and druggist, aged sixty-five. Deceased was the son of the late Mr. George Dutton, chemist and druggist and the last stamp-distributor in Bolton. He was brought up with his father in the drug-trade in the Town Hall Square, as it was then, but afterwards moved to Bradshawgate. Later he gave up retail trade, confining himself to the wholesale trade in Crown Street. Mr. Dutton died of bronchitis and heart-failure. He leaves two sons.

**JESSUP.**—On January 17, Mr. Robert Markham Jessup, chemist and druggist, New Cleethorpes, Grimsby, aged fifty-five.

**JOHNSON.**—On January 14, Mr. Robert Johnson, chemist and druggist, Stanley Street, Leek, Staffs, aged seventy-one.

**KENT.**—On January 22, Mr. George Harold Kent, of 36 Leinster Gardens, Hyde Park, W., and senior director of Messrs. G. B. Kent & Sons, Ltd., 75 Farringdon Road, E.C., aged forty-eight.

**KURLBAUM.**—Mr. Charles L. Kurlbaum, who was one of the pioneer camphor-refiners in the United States, died in Philadelphia on January 9, aged seventy.

**MCCORMICK.**—On January 18, Mr. Frank Henry McCormick, chemist and druggist, Rhosddu, Wrexham, aged fifty-four.

**MYERS.**—On January 24, Mr. William Myers, chemist and druggist, of 24 Greek Street, Soho, London, W.

**WEBB.**—On January 30, the beloved wife of Mr. J. H. Webb, chemist and druggist, Luton, aged forty-five.

**WHITELAW.**—On January 14, Mr. Andrew Whitelaw, chemist and druggist, Wishaw, formerly of Lyle Street, Greenock, aged forty.

**WOODS.**—At 7 Argyle Terrace, Plymouth, on January 25, Mr. William Woods, chemist and druggist Bedford Street, Plymouth, aged seventy-six. Mr. Woods was a native of Suffolk, his father being a well-known ironmaster. He was apprenticed to a surgeon and apothecary in a country town of Kent, and after serving as assistant in London, Dublin, Taunton, and Marlborough, went to Devon to manage the business of Mr. Jeffry, of Devonport, when the latter was Mayor. Shortly afterwards he purchased the business of Mr. Giles, Bedford Street, Plymouth, which he carried on for over fifty years. About fifteen years ago he met with an accident which injured his spine, and finally resulted in paralysis. His only son, Mr. W. Herbert Woods, pharmaceutical chemist, has for the past twelve years taken entire management of the pharmacy. Deceased was the proprietor of Woods' areca-nut tooth-paste, which has a world-wide popularity. The funeral took place on Saturday, among those present being Mr. R. Winnicott, Mayor of Plymouth, and Messrs. C. J. Park, F. A. Goodwin, F. Maitland, J. Barge, J. Allen, F. W. Hunt, J. Davy Turney, and R. F. Roper.



## Legal Reports.

### Trade Law.

**Repairing a Mineral-water Van.**—A firm of mineral-water manufacturers entered into a contract with A, a wheelwright, under which A agreed to keep their vans in good and substantial repair for a period of three years. In pursuance of this contract A was accustomed to send his men to examine the firm's vans periodically; on one occasion, a driver, noticing that his particular van went heavily, drew the attention of A's man to it. The latter took off the wheel, repaired, oiled, and replaced it. About a fortnight later the driver found his van going heavily again, and it was again submitted to A's man, who once more did something to it, and assured the driver that it was now all right. On the same day, however, while in use, the wheel came off, and the driver was thrown to the ground and injured. The driver subsequently brought an action against A, alleging that the latter's man negligently failed to repair the defective wheel, and that the accident was due to this negligent and unskilful repairing. It was held by the County Court Judge that A owed no duty to the plaintiff, inasmuch as the contract was with his employers, and not with him, and gave judgment for defendant. Against this the plaintiff appealed to the King's Bench unsuccessfully, and upon the case being carried to the Court of Appeal the former decisions were again upheld, the Master of the Rolls pointing out that in a case as far back as 1842 it had been laid down—and the decision had stood the test of repeated discussion—that the operation of such a contract as this must be confined to the parties who enter into it. In some cases of a public nature, where the real ground of liability is public duty undertaken or public nuisance committed, the law allows a breach of contract to be turned into an actionable wrong. But here, in the absence of any public interest, the plaintiff had no cause of action against the contractor.

**A Partnership Question.**—A partnership in law need not of necessity be constituted by deed. An oral agreement is sufficient; but there are numerous responsibilities attaching to each individual partner, and there are many risks of disagreement, etc., which make it very desirable that a properly drawn legal document be obtained. An example of the need for this, and for careful accountancy in partnership affairs, was seen in the Court of Appeal recently, in a case in which four brothers, A, B, C, and D, succeeded to the business of their deceased father. A died, leaving most of his property in the business, which the three surviving brothers continued to carry on. Next B died, and by will left his estate to his surviving brothers equally, and they afterwards carried on the business. Subsequently C offered to purchase D's share for 10,000*l*. After negotiation between their respective solicitors, it was agreed that C should pay 21,000*l*. for D's share. This was carried out, and due payment was made. Afterwards D discovered that certain assets of the partnership (to wit, mortgages in favour of the firm for some thousands of pounds) had not been disclosed, and brought an action against C for damages for fraudulent misrepresentation. This action was settled by payment on the part of C of 3,500*l*. in settlement of all claims—charges of fraud being withdrawn. Before this settlement was arrived at, D surmised and believed that there were still further partnership assets undisclosed, and in regard to these he brought another action, having first secured the 3,500*l*. It was held by the Lords Justices that as D, having full knowledge that the subsequent proceedings might cause the original sale to be set aside, deliberately delayed the proceedings in order to obtain payment of the balance of the purchase-money, it was now too late for him to repudiate the contract of which he had thus carefully secured the benefits.

**Covenants in Restraint of Trade.**—When an existing business is converted into a limited-liability company, and the partners become directors of the company, there is usually an agreement to the effect that they will not, during their directorate or for a further period named, carry on or take part in carrying on a similar business within a stated area. Such an agreement formed the subject of a case recently before the Court of Appeal. In this case two partners sold their business to a company, and themselves became managing directors under an agreement to remain such for three years, and not to carry on or assist in carrying on any similar business within a radius of twenty miles during a period of ten years from the date of their (or either of them) ceasing to be managing directors. The company got into financial difficulties, and a receiver—appointed by debenture-holders—sold the business and goodwill to the plaintiff in the action. The defendant was told that his services as managing director would no longer be required. He thereupon entered into the service of a rival company, claiming that his dismissal by the receiver justified him in regarding his agreement as being at an end. Plaintiff, however, took the other view and applied for an injunction restraining defendant

from acting contrarily to the covenant. The injunction was granted, and the Court of Appeal has upheld the decision. It was pointed out that the benefit of a covenant of that kind passed upon the assignment of the goodwill, and plaintiff, having purchased the goodwill, was entitled to the full benefit of the covenant in question and of all other covenants made upon the purchase of the original business by the company.

### High Court Cases.

#### CARBOLIC TOOTH-POWDER.

In the Chancery Division on Friday, January 27, before Mr. Justice Farwell, Mr. Jenkins, K.C., said he had a motion in the case of *Thomas Christy & Co. v. Shirley*. It was a rather serious passing-off case with reference to carbolic tooth-powder which plaintiffs wished decided as soon as possible. Counsel for the defendant said he had only just been instructed in the matter, and he therefore asked that the motion should stand over for a week. Mr. Jenkins: I should have thought there could be no question of fact. It is a question of passing off, and I do not know which is the plaintiffs' and which is the defendant's article. His Lordship: The case had better stand over for a week.

#### BENEDICTINE LIQUEUR.

Mr. JUSTICE BUCKLEY, sitting in the Chancery Division on Saturday, January 28, was rather contemptuous of a motion on behalf of the *Société Anonyme de la Distillerie de la Liqueur Benedictine de l'Abbaye Fécamp*, for an injunction to restrain a Mr. Green, who trades under the name of the South Wales Liqueur Compounding Co., from selling benedictine not manufactured by the plaintiffs as and for theirs. Counsel submitted that plaintiffs had acquired a reputation for the liqueur, and that as a consequence nobody is at liberty to sell any liqueur under the name of benedictine. As to this Mr. Justice Buckley said anybody is entitled to sell benedictine as defendant had done, and in dismissing the motion, with costs, said he was surprised that anybody should have brought it.

### Pharmacy Act, 1858.

#### SALE OF ARSENIC.

At the Stratford Police Court on Friday, January 27, William Andrews, an East Ham ratcatcher, answered to a summons, issued at the instance of the Pharmaceutical Society, for selling arsenic to a person unknown to him, contrary to the provisions of Section 17 of the Pharmacy Act. Mr. W. H. Quarrell (of Messrs. Flux, Thompson, Quarrell & Co., solicitors), who appeared for the Society, stated that on December 27 an inspector of the Society wrote to the defendant, enclosing a postal order for 5*s*. 6*d*., and asked for a supply of Hammond's preparation for rat-killing. The next day he received by post a packet containing a cake, apparently made of wheatmeal. This was submitted to Mr. T. Tickle, analyst to the Society, who found that it contained not less than 35 per cent. of arsenic. It weighed just over 4 oz., and contained 1½ oz. of arsenic.

Mr. Tickle gave evidence in support of this statement.

Major Poulter (Chairman of the Bench) inquired how much of the cake would have to be eaten by a person to prove fatal.

Mr. Tickle: Half a grain would be dangerous, and a grain almost certainly fatal. A crumb of the cake if par-taken of would kill. Altogether the cake contained about 600 grains of arsenic.

Major Poulter: Do you wish to ask any questions, Andrews?

The Defendant: I would like to know by what means can I be introduced to a person? (Laughter.)

Major Poulter (smiling): I am afraid that does not arise out of the evidence. The section under which this summons is taken out says you must not sell poison to a person not known to you.

The Defendant: I don't know the Act.

Major Poulter: You should if you are a dealer in poisons.

The Defendant: I am guilty, I know; I can only plead ignorance.

Mr. Quarrell said the Society went to great expense in these cases. However, they did not press for the full penalty, but felt that they must ask the Bench to allow them some costs, in recognition of their efforts to guard the public in these matters.



Major Poulter said the defendant had evidently been in the business many years, and it was time he knew the conditions under which he could trade.

The Defendant: I have been in the line thirty-five years. Major Poulter observed that it was time defendant knew the law. He would be fined 40s. and 4s. costs, and the Society would be allowed 17. 1s. as costs.

### Medicine-stamp Act, 1812.

#### THE MUTILATION CHARGE.

At Eccles on January 26, Edwin Boden, proprietor of "Boden's Hot Drops," again appeared before the Magistrates, charged with affixing mutilated stamps to his proprietary. Previous hearings were reported in our issues of January 21 (p. 82) and January 28 (p. 172). Two further charges were preferred against defendant on this occasion. The first was with having on June 30, 1904, fraudulently procured and mutilated a patent-medicine stamp with intent that use should be made of part of such stamp. It was alleged that on the date in question defendant handed to Messrs. J. Woolley, Sons & Co., Ltd., of Manchester, a parcel of forty-six bottles of "Hot Drops" of the 7½d. size, which were found to have only half-stamps upon them. The other charge was in respect of a consignment delivered to Messrs. Oldfield, Pattinson & Co., Manchester, on October 6 last, which, with the exception of two bottles, which had not been opened, were found sealed with only half-stamps. Defendant was committed for trial on both charges to the next sessions.

### Sale of Food and Drugs Acts.

#### GINGER-WINE.

At Crumlin, co. Antrim, David Mairs was last week fined 1s. and costs for having sold ginger-wine containing 2.43 grains of salicylic acid per pint.

#### MAGNESIA.

RICHARD WOOD, grocer, of Old Hunwick, Bishop Auckland, has been fined 10s. and costs for selling calcined magnesia not of the nature and substance demanded. The defendant said he sold it just as he got it.

#### MALT-VINEGAR.

JAMES LOVELADY, Crosby, has been fined 10s. and costs for selling as malt-vinegar an article containing not more than 20 per cent. of genuine malt vinegar and not less than 80 per cent. of diluted acetic acid.

### County Court Cases.

#### A LOZENGE ACCOUNT.

IN the Lord Mayor's Court on Monday, January 30, the case of "Smith v. Scupham" came on for hearing before the Common Sergeant (Mr. Bosanquet, K.C.) and a jury. It was an action by Messrs. Smith & Co., lozenge-manufacturers, of 132 Borough, S.E., against Mr. Scupham, a chemist, carrying on business at 53 Wilton Road, Victoria, under the style of "Legge," to recover 177. 15s. for lozenges supplied. Mr. H. McKenna was counsel for the plaintiffs; the defendant did not appear and was unrepresented. Mr. George Whittleton, plaintiffs' traveller, said he saw the defendant on September 14, 1904, when an account had been delivered to him for 177. 7s. 10d. Defendant admitted the debt, and gave a post-dated cheque for 10l. on account. At the same time he gave a further small order. The cheque was dishonoured, and there was an amount due of the sum claimed. In the absence of the defendant the jury returned a verdict for the plaintiffs for the amount claimed.

#### PROMISSORY NOTE.

At Truro County Court on January 27, Thomas Anthony, pharmaceutical chemist, Truro, sued Simon Bishop, Sumnercourt, for 29l. 12s., the amount of a promissory note. Defendant alleged that he did not owe the money and was intoxicated when he signed the note. Judgment was given for the plaintiff, with costs.

### Chemists' Almanacks.

A CASE of considerable interest to chemists who issue almanacks was heard at Enniskillen Quarter Sessions on January 23 before his Honour Judge Craig, K.C. It was

stated that on July 22 a traveller representing Messrs. Hudson & Sons, Birmingham, called upon Mr. W. S. Taylor, L.P.S.I., the Pharmacy, Enniskillen, and obtained from him an order for 2,000 almanacks upon the understanding that Mr. Taylor could reduce this number to any quantity not less than 500 if he found that he could not obtain advertisements enough from other firms at least to pay an appreciable part of the expenditure involved in getting the almanacks printed. Mr. Taylor produced a circular he had received from the firm stating that he could reduce his order to 500 if he desired to do so. On the same evening that the traveller had called the defendant wrote to Messrs. Hudson stating that he had come to the conclusion that 2,000 almanacks was too many for him and asking them to reduce his order, until they got further word from him, to 1,000. To this letter he received no reply. Subsequently, finding that he could obtain very few advertisements for the almanack, Mr. Taylor wrote reducing his order to 500. To this letter no reply was received. On December 11 a letter was received stating that Messrs. Hudson were forwarding 2,000 almanacks to Enniskillen. Considerable correspondence ensued, and finally Mr. Taylor refused to accept delivery.

The traveller to whom the order was given was not in court, but Walter Hardy, another employé, deposed to seeing defendant's original signed order for 2,000 almanacks in the firm's offices. Witness admitted that this and all orders were obtained on the conditions set forth in the printed circular.

His Honour in giving judgment said commercial travellers as a class are a very persuasive lot of men. (Laughter.) The defendant in this case wrote on the very day he gave the order reducing the quantity of almanacks from 2,000 to 1,000, and Messrs. Hudson had no right to print more than this number at the very most, but they did not even acknowledge receipt of this letter, or write denying that defendant had a right to reduce his order, so that they actually acquiesced in this. If that was so, what right had they now to try and force 2,000 of these almanacks on defendant, whether he wanted them or not. He (his Honour) held they had no right whatever to do so, and dismissed the case on the merits.

### Deeds of Arrangement.

**Turner, John Scriven**, 60 Bury Street, Bloomsbury, London, Chemist and Druggist. Trustee, Edward Wells, C.A., 66 Coleman Street, E.C. Secured creditors, 1,150l.; liabilities unsecured, 1,289l. 12s. 11d.; estimated net assets, 850l. The following are creditors: Baiss Bros. & Stevenson, Ltd., London, 344l.; G. Boehm, London, 10l.; Camwal, Ltd., London, 63l.; H. Davenport, London, 200l.; Faudells, Ltd., London, 15l.; Gibbs & Co., London, 10l.; W. Gregory, London, 11l.; Hovenden & Sons, Ltd., London, 15l.; J. J. Johnson, London, 32l.; S. Maw, Son & Sons, London, 30l.; C. Russell & Co., London, 24l.; J. B. Smith, London, 40l.; Miss Turner, Leominster, 303l.; Trustees of C. E. Turner (deceased), Brighton, 17l.

**Willis, Edwin Ernest**, Littleport, Ely, Cambridgeshire, Surgeon. Trustee, George D. D. Comins, auctioneer, Ely. Liabilities unsecured, 1,147l. 9s. 10d.; estimated net assets, 520l.

### Gazette.

#### Partnerships Dissolved.

**Fitzhugh, R., and Carr, C. F.**, under the style of Fitzhugh & Carr, Nottingham, chemists and druggists.

**North, M., and North, W.**, under the style of M. Ellis & Co., Liversedge, Yorkshire, drysalters and druggists.

#### The Bankruptcy Acts, 1883 and 1890.

##### RECEIVING ORDER.

**Merrall, Henry Mackenzie**, Shepherd's Bush Road, W. and South Side, Clapham Common, S.W., dentist.

##### ADJUDICATIONS.

**Timms, George William**, Bridport, veterinary surgeon.

**Williams, Ernest**, lately Chester, presently Gower Street, London, N.W., photographic dealer and druggist.





**TO CORRESPONDENTS.**—Please write clearly and concisely on one side of the paper only. All communications should be accompanied by the names and addresses of the writers. If queries are submitted, each should be written on a separate piece of paper. We do not reply to queries by post, and can only answer on subjects of general interest.

#### Cod-liver Oil.

SIR,—I have been very much interested in your account of the recent prosecutions for cod-liver oil adulteration, and in the very able manner in which Mr. J. C. Umney has handled the matter. It is one which deeply concerns both wholesale and retail chemists. Much of the cod-liver oil made in March and April, at the time the fish is caught, is kept in its unrefined state until later in the year, and is sent to the refinery-houses of the makers, which are mostly some distance from the place where the oil is made. I have a strong impression that the oil suffers from being kept in this condition, as when first made it is often somewhat watery and has a small proportion of animal matter which must affect the oil if kept long in contact. I saw some of this oil in July of last year, and it was quite turbid. I then saw it passed through the filters, when it came out beautifully bright but lacking the sweet nutty flavour of oil made earlier in the season. Possibly, some other of your readers may have something to say on this point.

Faithfully yours,

Hull, January 27.

WM. BOUSFIELD.

SIR,—I have read with much interest the paper by Messrs. Umney and Bennett in connection with the recent cases under the Sale of Food and Drugs Acts heard and dismissed at Kensington. As having taken some part in the defence of these cases, I should like to support those chemists in their general contentions, and have also further remarks to make, which seem to me to have some bearing on the relations of the retailer and the wholesaler to the prosecuting authorities. I have also had the opportunity of making an exhaustive examination of a very large number of samples of cod-liver oil during the past year or two.

The first point to which I wish to draw attention is the old bugbear of Somerset House. I have often heard the opinion expressed from the Bench (and have often seen that opinion acted upon) that Somerset House is, unless special further evidence be forthcoming, to be regarded as the final authority where a difference of opinion between analysts exists. This is in practice substantially true. Without wishing to reflect in the least on anyone individually, I would ask, Is this not an utter absurdity, which might work out as a gross injustice? In the cases referred to Dr. Rideal, a public analyst holding high qualifications, expressed one opinion; the analyst for the defence, also a chemist of reputable qualifications, held another. Who was called in to decide this difference of opinion? In theory Dr. Thorpe, the head of the Somerset House laboratory, but in fact two of his assistants who signed the report, and who thereby took all the responsibility, none of which was even tacitly accepted by Dr. Thorpe. Is this fair or reasonable to either analyst or to the prosecution or to the defendant? Fortunately, the Magistrates in these cases were far from satisfied, and gave the defence the opportunity of calling fresh evidence, and the Somerset House assistants were to the satisfaction of the Bench proved to be wrong in their conclusions by the consensus of opinion of Dr. Lewkowitsch, Mr. J. C. Umney, Mr. C. E. Cassal, Mr. C. T. Bennett, and myself.

That the Pharmacopœia is in practice, and must always be in a sense, a standard is, I think, agreed; but I believe the position is recognised by many magistrates, and must be urged on all, that the Pharmacopœia occupies a position exactly similar to the published standards of the Board of Agriculture under Section 4 of the 1899 Sale of Food and Drugs Act, which shall, for the purposes of the Act, in the case of samples which show deficiency, "raise a presumption, until the contrary be proved, that the milk,

cream, or butter or cheese is not genuine." This, Sir, I think is the farthest point to which Mr. Macmorran's contention can go. He urged on the Bench that, at most, retailers are only bound by the description of the articles and their methods of preparation, but not by the tests. If the Pharmacopœia be a standard at all, it is *prima facie* evident that the tests are those with which such article, if pure, will in fact comply, and retailers are bound by the tests as much as by anything else. Given the right to rebut these tests (as is quite possible in the case of many articles), one cannot grumble at the adoption of the Pharmacopœia as a standard, but may legitimately complain of the compilers of the book where they are wrong. What is the most practical remedy? The difficulty of continually altering the Pharmacopœia is obvious; but if, in the next Act, power were given to the Board of Trade to appoint a commission to draw up a set of standard tests for the articles included in the Pharmacopœia, which should be varied and reprinted as necessity arises, or amended by appendices where necessary, we could then be well content to leave out all tests in the Pharmacopœia and have merely a description of the articles for the prosecutors' use, and a separate book of standards published which should be as binding as are the standards for milk published by the Board of Agriculture. These would have the advantage of being compiled by men of special experience, and the General Medical Council, who are responsible for the medical aspect of the Pharmacopœia, need have little or nothing to do with this other part. The standards published in Ireland for articles which are not fully described in the Pharmacopœia illustrate the ease with which such a plan might be adopted, and thus, *inter alia*, get rid of friction between analysts and Somerset House.

Yours faithfully,

Borough, S.E., January 30.

ERNEST J. PARRY.

#### A Mild Protest.

SIR,—As subscribers to your journal, in which we have found much valuable and useful information on drugs, we would put in a mild protest with regard to your editorial comments of January 21 and the remarks of "Xrayser" in your issue for January 28. The latter speaks of "the inequity of requiring innocent tradesmen to pay for the education of magistrates and analysts," and if he had qualified the latter (the magistrates can look after their own reputation) by the word "some" we should have had no protest to make. We think his accusation is too sweeping in its scope, because we as public analysts flatter ourselves that in our districts we have discountenanced what we considered unjust cod-liver oil prosecutions, and have even stayed prosecutions which would otherwise have gone on. However, under the circumstances, we do not attach much blame to the strong language of "Xrayser," as even bad language might be forgiven when provocation is so great. We should like to point out that public analysts also have their little grievances, as all the burden of investigating such subjects rests with them, and, speaking for ourselves, the fees we have received for cod-liver oil analyses have not repaid us for the work and time spent in this laboratory on trying to find out what genuine cod-liver oil really is. This had to be done, if we desired to be conscientious, as we found the published information was not a sufficient guide to the determination of the genuineness or otherwise of cod-liver oil. One of us and our assistant Mr. H. Dunlop have prepared a paper on "The Examination of Cod-liver and other Fish-liver Oils," the main results being on oils rendered in the laboratory from the various livers, thus making perfectly certain of the genuineness of the oils. This paper is to be read on January 31 before the Scottish Section of the Society of Chemical Industry, and in it there will be fresh material for consideration.

We should in the meantime like to make some remarks on the paper on cod-liver oil contributed to your last number by Messrs. Umney and Bennett, with whose conclusions we agree, speaking generally, but there are some points which ought to be more fully considered before fixing definitely the requirements for the British Pharmacopœia. We shall now refer to the proposed requirements for this purpose which have been drafted by Messrs. Umney and Bennett, and although we may differ to some extent, we bear in mind that their monograph is only tenta-



tive, and that our sole object, as well as theirs, is to arrive at the truth.

The first requirement of the monograph is that the oil be extracted from the fresh liver of the cod. Surely this is not necessary, because we hold that it is impossible to distinguish by analysis between cod-liver oil and the oil from the livers of the ling, hake, coalfish, and probably other fish-liver oils. If this is so as far as the analyst is concerned, can there be any objection medicinally to any of these oils, and is it not the fact that they are all practically the same in this respect? Why should not the oil be simply defined as a fish-liver oil, or mixture of these, possessing the properties afterwards detailed, as it is mere pretence to say that one can, in the present state of our knowledge, distinguish real cod-liver oils from other similar oils? As already stated, we agree generally with Messrs. Umney and Bennett, but we would widen some of the figures for the constants which they have adopted "without prejudice," and perhaps narrow others. Thus, the range of specific gravity seems to be rather wide, but this item is not at best of very great consequence. The higher limit for saponification-value appears to us to be rather high, but the highest iodine-value is probably to the low side, and both of these call for further investigation. We have no great faith in the melting-point (or, indeed, any constant) of the fatty acids, as they undergo oxidation so easily and unequally according to the care taken in their preparation, and this undoubtedly affects the melting-point. As regards colour-tests, we have found them generally so deceptive that we should be chary of specifying any of these as being a certain indication of genuineness; but that selected by Messrs. Umney and Bennett would appear to be the least open to objection. Finally, the refractive index has been trumped up far too much as a test of the genuineness of cod-liver oil, and the limit of "not below 1.4790" is certainly too high. But these questions are all discussed in the paper referred to above.

What is urgently required is a full discussion as to the requirements absolutely necessary in the case of drugs, and the elimination of these unreliable and unnecessary data which have proved an annoyance to the druggist as well as the analyst.

Yours faithfully,

Glasgow, January 30. R. R. TATLOCK & THOMSON.

#### The B.P. as a Drug-standard.

SIR,—The recent cod-liver oil prosecutions in Chelsea have served admirably to direct the attention of the trade to the injustice frequently occurring when cases are dismissed without allowing costs although, as in Kensington, the defence may have necessitated the expenditure of a considerable sum. Not infrequently judgment goes by default because no proper defence is made, owing to lack of funds. It would be a pity if at this juncture the matter were allowed to drop without the inception of some movement having for its object the establishment of a more satisfactory condition of things than at present exists. Mr. Dott's suggested "central competent authority which should determine whether there existed a sufficient *prima-facie* case" might answer well if such could be established, though it is rather difficult to see how this plan would work satisfactorily in practice. The appointment of a competent committee authorised to establish standards for drugs, etc., would probably be more easily secured since it would be more or less welcome to most parties concerned. Nevertheless, it would carry great disadvantages—e.g., the standards would necessarily be low and so would give to the dishonest trader an undue advantage, permitting him even to adulterate many things, just as rich milk can now be diluted to a certain extent without risk. An impetus would be given to professional adulteration, even now somewhat common, and in some cases extremely difficult, if not impossible, of detection. However, as things stand the professional "faker" is rarely quite certain that he is not sooner or later going to be tripped up. True, he always possesses a distinct advantage over the analyst, knowing the latter's usual requirements, which he sets himself to comply with. The establishment of general and uniform standards would seriously diminish the chances of check-mating him.

That the British Pharmacopœia should be constituted the ultimate authority for the purposes of the Sale of Food and

Drugs Acts is highly undesirable. For example, it is quite clear that medicinal standards cannot be applied to commercial articles such as soft soap, starch, and turpentine; but many other cases occur in which the distinction exists in a less marked degree—for instance, the sale of benzoin for polishing-purposes, or of ammonia for cleaning. To constitute the Pharmacopœia the standard for the sale of such preparations would be to debar the chemist from a considerable proportion of his legitimate trade. Another objection to the adoption of the B.P. as a final standard is that it is totally inadequate for the detection of adulteration. Consider the monograph on honey: the tests given would pass as entirely satisfactory most of the samples of adulterated honey now met with. Consider also the shortcomings of the monographs on essential oils, santal, eucalyptus, etc.; and, finally, the omission of the most important tests for the purity of fixed oils. The Pharmacopœia cannot fulfil the office of a text-book of analysis, and ought to abandon the attempt, leaving details to the analyst, and merely stating the well-known constants, etc., which serve to characterise a drug as unadulterated, or the limit of impurity permitted, etc. Such procedure need not be pushed to extremes. Probably details of alkaloidal determinations should be retained (after revision) along with some other tests, but it would be absurd to burden the book with methods of saponification, of obtaining iodine and acetyl values, or with Renard's method of testing for arachis oil, etc. Yet there is no reason why these matters of the very highest importance should be ignored as they are at the present time. Pharmaceutical analysis can no longer be efficiently performed at the dispensing-counter, and therefore all useless or inconclusive tests should be expunged, and their place filled by a lucid description of those chemical and physical characters which serve to establish the identity and purity of the substance in question.

Yours truly,

Nottingham, January 31.

T. F. HARVEY.

#### Cod-liver Oil.

SIR,—I have often thought, and still think, that we English are a most long suffering people under an unjust law; or, as was proven in the prosecution for so-called "adulterated" cod-liver oil, the unjust or unfair application of a law, be that law good or bad.

The law relating to the sale of food and drugs is undoubtedly a good law in intention to stop and to punish adulteration—but the application of it, so far as the drug-trade is concerned, is made most unfair by the action of the analysts, who are paid by results; a system which is, I am confident, quite contrary to the intentions of the framers of the Acts.

As Mr. J. C. Umney has pointed out, it seems to be the aim of these analytical gentlemen to try to find in a drug or chemical some trace of impurity which is easily detectable, and then, relying on the ignorance of the Magistrates in chemical matters, and on the easily raised fears of the public, to institute a series of persecutions. The inevitable ignorance of the Magistrates in the science of chemistry is of the greatest importance to these gentlemen, as otherwise they would not secure their convictions, but would be laughed out of court. If they went to a grocer and asked for sugar, and in analysis were able to certify that it contained foreign matter "to the prejudice of the consumer" to the extent of four or five grains in the pound, and asked for a conviction on this ground, the case would be dismissed as frivolous; but if they can say that a much smaller percentage of lead is present in a chemical, and they can hold up the terror of lead-poisoning to the eyes of the Bench, the Magistrates, forgetful of the amount of lead they imbibe in drinking water, are ready to convict. The daily Press, equally ignorant of chemical matters, comes out next day with a long article on the serious adulteration of such-and-such an article with lead. Then, too, as in the case of the cod-liver oil, the baneful practice has grown up of treating the B.P. as an authoritative standard, which it is not; and this work, gravely faulty as it is in many of its monographs, is treated as a fetish, even by those who, I think, ought to know better.

My object in troubling you with this letter is to beg the trade, both wholesale and retail, to band themselves together by some organisation and to put such pressure on the authorities that we shall get a Board of Reference, before



whom all cases should be brought relating to drugs, prior to being taken into court, for an expression of opinion as to whether there is fair ground for prosecution or not. Some little time before the passing of the Sale of Food and Drugs Act in 1899, Mr. Charles Umney and I gave evidence before the Committee of the House of Commons appointed to consider the provisions of the Bill and we both pushed this point home for all we were worth, contending that ordinary foodstuffs and drugs or chemicals ought not to be considered on the same plane, but should receive quite different treatment. If my recollection serves me right, we proposed the appointment of a Reference Committee, consisting of representatives from (1) Somerset House, (2) the medical profession, (3) the Society of Public Analysts, (4) the Pharmaceutical Society, and (5) the wholesale drug-trade, the duties of such committee to be simply to state whether the prosecutions were reasonable or not; but I suppose in their Westminster wisdom the Committee of the House did not see their way to embody such provision in the Bill: if they had done so, a large number of the prosecutions which have taken place since then would never have been allowed to go into court.

It seems to me that the matter is again ripe for agitation. A chemist has been prosecuted for selling "adulterated" cod-liver oil. It is proved that the oil is pure, and that there is no ground for conviction, and yet magistrates refuse to grant costs, holding that there were grounds for the prosecution. Is this justice?

That oftentimes ridiculed body the London Drug Club have spent nearly 300*l.* in defending the case, and have thus justified their existence in the general interests of the trade. They have scotched the snake, but they have not killed it: this can only be done by strong and concerted action by the trade, as stated in Mr. J. C. Umney's able letter.

I leave it to abler pens than mine to suggest the course of procedure. My only object in writing is to keep alive the interest of the trade in this most important and vital matter, and I conclude by asking, What do the trade say, and what do they mean to do to protect themselves?

Yours faithfully,

J. CLASSON PRESTON.

81 Bishopsgate Street Without, E.C., February 1.

#### Alkali in Cocoa.

SIR,—Referring to your note on cocoa, in your issue of January 28, I desire to take the opportunity to confirm, from my long experience of commercial cocoas, the conclusion arrived at by the "Lancet" reporter—namely, that although Dutch and English cocoas, which have been manufactured in accordance with the Dutch method, doubtless do contain a larger proportion of total ash constituents than do cocoas not thus prepared, there is no justification for the allegation often made that any of them contain "added alkali." No cocoa on the market has an alkaline reaction that could be ascribed to caustic or carbonated alkali.

Yours very faithfully,

11 Billiter Square, E.C., February 2. OTTO HEHNER.

#### Information Wanted.

Postcard replies to any of subjoined inquiries will be esteemed.

- 123/20. Who are makers of Fluo-silicate of soda?
- 122/52. Who can supply silica in large quantities?
- 116/66. Importers of liquorice branded "Cedonia."
- 125/36. Publishers of Pamphilon's "Complete Business Register."
- 128/63. Who are makers of Molyneux Composition, used by engineers?
- 123/23. Name and address of makers of machinery for rolling and cutting bandages.
- 116/6. Who are the makers of artificial flowers for putting on the necks of perfume-bottles?
- 125/33. Maker or agent for "Dustilayer," used for sprinkling on floors of schools and public buildings.
- 124/53. Maker of curb liniment or preparation "Irish Vesicant" or "Vesigant," retailing at 5*s.* or 7*s.* 6*d.* per pot or bottle.

We shall be glad if the inquirers for "Gibson's corn-plasters" and a "Damp-testing instrument" will send us their addresses, as we have replies to their queries.

## Chemical Society.

The lecture-room of the Society at Burlington House, Piccadilly, W., was well filled on Wednesday evening, January 25, when Professor W. H. Perkin, F.R.S., delivered the

#### WISLICENUS MEMORIAL LECTURE

briefly referred to in last week's *C. & D.* Supplement. The President (Dr. W. A. Tilden) was in the chair. Professor Perkin devoted most of his time to an appreciation of the splendid character of the man Johannes Wislicenus, who was born at Klein-Eichstedt, in Thuringia, in 1825, the son of Gustave Adolph Wislicenus, a Lutheran minister of Polish extraction, and a lifelong martyr for his religious and political opinions. At first his favourite study was the German language, in which he excelled his fellows, but he early developed a liking for science, chemistry in particular. His first scientific appointment was as an assistant to Heintz, in 1855. In the same year his father received one of his frequent sentences of imprisonment, and as the family was identified with his opinions they had to leave the country. Under Johannes' care they escaped to England and embarked for the United States. Cholera presently broke out on board. The doctors confined themselves to the care of the first-class passengers, and it would have gone badly with the steerage passengers had it not been for Johannes Wislicenus. Eventually the ship had to return to England. After living here for a while in straitened circumstances, they finally reached the United States, where they were supported for two years by the earnings of Johannes in scientific work. He first obtained an appointment at Harvard, and afterwards opened an analytical laboratory in New York. After his return to Europe he again worked with Heintz at Halle, and in 1859 he wrote, in conjunction with Heintz, his first scientific paper, disproving Liebig's aldehydic-acid theory. Leaving Halle because he was required to refrain from expressing his political opinions, he went to Zurich, where, in 1861, he was appointed professor of chemistry and metallurgy in the Canton School. In 1864 he was made extraordinary professor of chemistry, in 1867 ordinary professor, and in 1871 director. At Zurich he pursued his lactic-acid investigations and extended in a brilliant manner the existing theories of structural chemistry. In 1865 he interested himself with Ficke in the question of the origin of muscular power. Some years later he succeeded Strecke in the chair of chemistry at Wurzburg, where his most important work was the synthesis of the aceto-acetic esters, and in 1885 he was made professor of chemistry at the Leipzig University, which position he occupied until his death. From 1885 he devoted himself to the investigation of the distribution in space of the atoms in carbon compounds and geometrical isomerism or stereochemistry. Professor Perkin, as a former student under Wislicenus, dwelt almost lovingly on his great capacity as a teacher. His students had a large share in his lactic-acid and stereochemical researches, and it was primarily for his students that he founded the Chemical Societies of Zurich, Wurzburg, and Leipzig. Professor Perkin concluded his memoir with a review of the scientific work of Wislicenus.

Professor Frankland, Professor Armstrong, and Dr. Thorne, as former pupils of Wislicenus at Leipzig, also paid their tributes to his memory. As illustrating his integrity, Professor Frankland told a story of the days when Wislicenus had a laboratory in New York. One day two Americans came to him with a sample of mineral water which they wanted analysed that afternoon. The report was wanted for advertising purposes, and they told him he could name any fee he liked. He refused, and explained the impossibility of doing it in the time. They departed, informing him he was a "young greenhorn," and found a chemist who furnished the report in the required time, although it was full of quantitative details! The man afterwards confided to Wislicenus that he had invented for the occasion a special process for the analysis of water by smell! Dr. Thorne afterwards put the finishing touch by saying that at the time Wislicenus had but sixpence in his pocket and his rent was due in two days.



## Trade Report.

**NOTICE TO BUYERS.**—The prices given in this section are those obtained by importers or manufacturers for bulk quantities or original packages. To these prices various charges have to be added, whereby values are in many instances greatly augmented before wholesale dealers stock the goods. Qualities of drugs and oils vary greatly, and higher prices are commanded by selected qualities even in bulk quantities. It would be unreasonable for retail buyers to expect to get small quantities at anything like the prices here quoted.

### 42 Cannon Street, London, E.C., February 2.

**T**HE general market for drugs and chemicals presents few new features of interest this week, and the business tone continues quiet. Among chemicals, hyposulphite of soda is firmly held owing to the coal-strike in Germany, and acetate of soda is also very firm. Export business in chemicals has been necessarily affected by the uprisings in Russia and the labour troubles in Germany. Crude carbolic acid is easier, but crystals are unaltered. Endeavours are being made to effect a combination of the makers of phenazone, and an advance of 1s. per lb. is talked of. Acetanilide is not so freely offered as it was, and is firmer. Quinine is somewhat steadier, consequent on moderate bark-shipments from Java. Morphine is very firm. Among drugs, Johore ipecacuanha has been in good demand privately, and first-hand stocks of this description are now cleared. Opium still shows an advancing tendency, and saffron is again higher. Menthol and peppermint oil are lower, and there are anxious sellers of shellac. The following are the more important changes of the week:

Higher	Firmer	Easier	Lower
Ammonia sulphate	Benzoin	Acid, carbolic (50 per cent.)	Cascara sagrada
Ipecac. (Rio)	Caraway seed	" " c.ude)	Menthol
Oil, spike	Coca-leaves	Aloes, Cape	Oil, linseed
Opium	Quinine (sec. hands)	Annatto-seed	Oil, peppermint (Jap.)
Saffron	Sarsaparilla (grey Jam.)	Benzols	Pepper (black and white)
		Buchu	Shellac
		Oil, cocoanut	
		Rosin	
		Senna (Tiny.)	
		Wax, bees' (Bombay)	

### Cablegrams.

**SMYRNA, February 2:**—The sales of opium for the week ending to-day amount to 120 cases, at from 7s. 10d. to 9s. per lb., f.o.b. There are few sellers, and the market is firm.

**NEW YORK, February 2:**—A good business tone prevails here. Opium has advanced to \$2.85 per lb. for druggists' in case lots, and menthol remains weak at \$2.25 per lb., while peppermint oil is easy at \$3.25 per lb. Refined camphor has been advanced to 80c. per lb. in barrels, and for lycopodium, which is scarce, 90c. per lb. is now wanted. Citronella oil is firmer at 32c. per lb.

**ACETANILIDE.**—Owing to the dearth of raw material, some makers are not free sellers, and the tendency is firmer at from 9d. for powder and 9½d. for crystals in quantity.

**ACID, CARBOLIC.**—Crude is again slightly easier, 50 per cent. being quoted 1s. 9d. per gallon; other grades are unchanged. Ordinary crystals are quoted 6¼d. per lb. for 34° C. to 35° C., and 6½d. for 39° C. to 40° C.

**ACID, CITRIC.**—English is quoted 1s. 0½d. to 1s. 0¾d., and foreign 1s. 0¼d. per lb.

**ACID, TARTARIC.**—English, powder or crystals, from the makers is quoted 11¼d. per lb.; foreign is 10¾d.

**ANTIMONY.**—The demand for Japanese crude is prin-

cipally for jobbing quantities at 17l. per ton on the spot. In auction the 50 cases offered had been sold privately. From Hamburg crude Chinese lump is quoted 17s. 6d., powder 21s., and Japanese regulus 37s. 6d.—all net cash.

**ARSENIC** has shown a firmer tendency of late, and for best white powder 12l. 10s. to 13l. per ton is quoted.

**BALSAM TOLU.**—Good hard, bright, genuine qualities are rather scarce, and in second-hands 1s. 1d. has been paid for small tins.

**BELLADONNA.**—Good testing qualities remain scarce. Prices vary from 36s. to 40s. per cwt., the latter figure being for good.

**BLEACHING-POWDER.**—Spot prices for English are firm at from 5l. to 5l. 5s. per ton, and forward values are unaltered.

**CANTHARIDES.**—One holder of Russian on the spot asks 5s. 3d. and 4s. 11d. c.i.f. for shipment.

**CINCHONA.**—The auction to be held at Amsterdam on February 23 will comprise 5,129 packages of Ledgeriana, 1,640 of Hybriden, and 1,879 of Succirubra, totalling 8,648 packages. The N.V. Nederlandsche Veem, at Amsterdam, reports the shipments from Java to Europe during January as follows:

Year.	Amst. lbs.	Year.	Amst. lbs.
1905 ...	781,000	1898 ...	956,000
1904 ...	855,000	1897 ...	390,000
1903 ...	593,000	1896 ...	970,000
1902 ...	970,000	1895 ...	657,000
1901 ...	1,000,000	1894 ...	893,000
1900 ...	615,000	1893 ...	900,000
1899 ...	509,800		

In the drug-auction 4 cases of good bold Java druggists' silvery quill were bought in at 1s. per lb. Eighty-four serons of fair bright Loxa from Paita sold cheaply at from 9½d. to 9¾d., one lot 8¾d. for sound; and 98 bales flat Calisaya brought 9¾d. to 11d. for sound, and damaged 4¼d. to 10½d. per lb.

**ERGOT.**—Sound Russian, to be shipped from Hamburg in about a fortnight, is quoted 1s. 5d. per lb., c.i.f., for at least 5 cwt.

**GUINEA GRAINS** are quoted from Hamburg at 38s. 6d. per cwt. in lots of 10 bags.

**JABORANDI.**—Genuine Ceara, large green B.P. 1898 leaves are offered at 1s. 1½d. per lb., c.i.f., in original bales; and small round leaves, for manufacturing-purposes, 7½d. to 8¼d. per lb., c.i.f.

**MORPHINE** is very firm, on the basis of 4s. per oz. for large contracts of hydrochloride in powder, and 4s. 2d. for cubes.

**OIL, COD-LIVER.**—Our Bergen correspondent writes on January 28 that the inspection of the fisheries has been established in the Lofotens this week, and further reports may therefore be expected in a few days. The weather continues stormy, and obstructive to fishing. Supplies of new oil are still trifling, but buyers are reserved. The quotation of 150s. per barrel, f.o.b. Bergen, for finest non-congealing oil is nominal. The exports from Bergen to date amount to 151 barrels, against 108 barrels at the same date of last year. A private advice from Bergen, dated January 25, states that the cod-fishing has commenced at a few places near the Lofoten Islands. At the present moment it is too early to give a definite opinion as to how the fish and the livers will turn out this season. At present it appears that livers may prove to be a little fatter than the preceding two years. The quotation to-day for new non-freezing steam-refined oil for February-March delivery is 160s. per barrel, f.o.r. Hull, without engagement. There is very little of last year's oil left, and 160s. to 165s. per barrel, f.o.r. Hull, is asked.

**OIL, LEMONGRASS.**—The price remains at 8d. per oz.

**OIL, SPIKE.**—Genuine pure oil has been sold at 5s. 6d. per lb., on the spot, and the few holders are very firm at this figure.

**OILS, FIXED.**—Cocoanut is easier at 29s. per cwt. for Ceylon on the spot, while Cochin is unchanged at 34s. Linseed is about 2s. 6d. lower, at 14s. 6d. in barrels and 13s. 9d. in pipes, on the spot. Refined Rope is unaltered at 21s., and Ravison 16s. 9d. to 17s. Refined Cottonseed is dull at 14s. to 16s. Turpentine is easier at 37s. 6d. per cwt. for American on the spot. American water-whites



*Petroleum* is quoted 6½d. to 7d., ordinary 5¾d.; Russian 4¾d. to 4½d., and Roumanian 5½d. per gallon.

**OPIMUM.**—The advanced prices now asked on the London market have checked business, and bids in many instances have to be submitted to principals. Good Turkey drug-gists' opium is now quoted 8s. 3d. to 8s. 6d. per lb., and Tokats have advanced from 9s. 6d. to 9s. 9d., at which a few cases have changed hands. There is practically no Persian opium to be had, and 14s. 6d. is the nominal quotation.

**SMYRNA, January 20.**—The sales for the week ending Friday amount to 220 cases as follows: Ten cases Yerli tale quale and 18 cases Karahissar for England, 20 cases Karahissar and 2 cases Yerli for the Continent, 135 cases Karahissar and 26 cases Yerli for the United States, and 9 cases Karahissar for speculators. We quote to-day: Current talequale (9 to 10 per cent.), 6s. 8d. to 7s. per lb., f.o.b.; usual run talequale (10 to 10½ per cent.), 7s. 1d. to 7s. 4d. per lb., f.o.b.; Karahissar talequale (10½ to 11½ per cent.), 7s. 2d. to 7s. 5d. per lb., f.o.b.; Yerli talequale (11 to 12 per cent.), 7s. 4d. to 7s. 8d. per lb., f.o.b.; rich Yerli (12 to 13 per cent.), 7s. 9d. to 8s. 8d. per lb., f.o.b.; Boghaditz, as to strength and buying conditions, 7s. 3d. to 7s. 8d. per lb., f.o.b. Frosty weather continues over all the opium districts, owing to which and to large purchases for America, and to speculators, it is difficult to induce our sellers to offer even at above quotations. We expect a further advance to set in next week. The arrivals in Smyrna to date amount to 4,136 cases, against 1,707 at same period last year.

**CONSTANTINOPLE, January 27.**—Severe weather continues all over the country, and autumn sowings, which were considerably below the average in most districts, have suffered severely. We estimate barely 20 per cent. of an average remain intact, and next year's crop must therefore perforce depend on spring sowings, which, nine times out of ten, suffer from want of rain during April and May. In any case it is practically certain that the crop will be a small one, say, not over 5,000 cases, and may be considerably less. The market is very firm and advancing, holders having practically withdrawn. Values will probably advance another 5 per cent. and then pause, pending developments of spring sowings. The week's sales amount to 47 cases "soft" at from 7s. 7d. to 8s. 1d., 15 cases Karahissars at 7s. 3d., and 15 cases druggists' at 7s. 2d. per lb., f.o.b.

**PHENAZONE.**—There are rumours about that the makers may come to an understanding regarding an advance in the price, and if such should be successful it would not be less than 1s. per lb. In the meanwhile the market is firm, as raw materials have advanced, and altogether it looks as if buyers would do well to cover their requirements.

**POTASH, CARBONATE,** is firmly held, and, owing to the advance in raw material, makers are asking higher prices, which restricts demand; 96 per cent. to 98 per cent. is quoted 20½, and 90 per cent. to 92 per cent. 17½ 10s. per ton. The above remarks also apply to *Caustic* potash, 88 to 90 per cent. of which is quoted 23½ and 74 to 76 per cent. 20½ 15s. per ton.

**POTASHES** remain easy at from 34s. 6d. to 35s. per cwt. for American. Montreals are scarce at about 36s., and *Pearl ashes* are very scarce.

**QUILLATA.**—Prices are lower owing to arrivals of new crop. Whole sound is quoted 19½ 5s. per ton c.i.f. in 5-ton lots.

**QUININE** is rather firmer, consequent on the moderate shipments of bark for the month. There are sellers of good German sulphate (new) at 10¾d., and buyers at 10½d. per oz. There has been a little more inquiry this week.

**ROSIN** is easier at 7s. 9d. to 8s. per cwt. for common strained.

**SAFFRON.**—Importers have further advanced their prices, owing to the receipt of advices from Spain announcing a strong and advancing market. Prices are now 1s. to 2s. per lb. dearer, and for finest B.P. quality of Valencia saffron in quantity 27s. net is a first-hand quotation, secondary quality, also B.P., being offered at 25s. 6d. per lb., net. Stocks in Spain are now reported to be very low.

**SCAMMONY-ROOT.**—A Hamburg advice stated that the market is cleared of all stocks of Mexican in first-hands. In second-hands several tons of prime resinous quality, testing at least 15 per cent., are quoted 24s. 6d. per cwt. gross, in ton lots.

**SEEDS.**—Small sales of Russian *Anise* are being made at 20s. per cwt. on the spot. Dutch *Caraways* are dearer at 24s. 6d. per cwt. on the spot, and the tendency is towards higher prices. *Canary* is slow of sale, but steady, at 66s. 6d. per quarter for Turkish and 70s. for Mazagan. The stock of Mogador *Coriander* is almost exhausted; the latest sales were at 35s. per cwt. Russian is offering at 30s., and Bombay at 19s. per cwt. *Penugreek* is firm at 9s. per cwt. for Mogador. *Linseed* is steady at 38s. to 42s. per quarter for good to fine clean. *Cumin* is slow at 18s. 6d. to 19s. 6d. per cwt for ordinary to good Mogador, at 22s. for fine, and at 27s. 6d. for Malta. At auction 40 bags of good clean Morocco were held at 19s. per cwt.

**SHELLAC.**—The spot market is quieter, and there are anxious sellers. Sales of matted to fair TN have been made at from 135s. to 140s., fine orange has been sold at 165s., cakey AC Garnet at 140s., and fine free at 145s. per cwt.

**SODA HYPOSULPHITE** is firm and in good demand on the basis of 5½ per ton, f.o.b. from makers. Owing to the coal strike in Germany, the makers there have been compelled to buy on this side to tide them over their short supplies. It is also said the cold weather on the Continent has affected the crystallisation, added to which the low prices ruling has led to a curtailment of the production.

**SOY.**—Fair thick Chinese is quoted 1s. 5d. to 1s. 6d. per gallon, duty paid.

**SPICES.**—At auction supplies of *Ginger* were on a small scale, only eleven cases being sold at from 45s. to 46s. per cwt. for medium and bold native-cut Cochin. Twenty bags of Japanese sold at 17s. for fair limed. Grey to fair Singapore *Pepper* was bought in at 8d. to 8½d. per lb., and privately fair can be had at 5½d. spot. Fair to good fair *White* Singapore was bought in at auction at 8d. to 8½d. per lb., and privately there are sellers on the spot at 7½d. for fair and Penang at 7½d. A few bags of *Pimento* sold at 2¾d. per lb. for mixed blacks and fair was bought in at 2½d. Fair selected *Cassia Lignea* was bought in at 42s. 6d. per cwt., *Nutmegs* were barely steady, and *Mace* was quiet, the sales including fair polish West Indian at 1s. 3d. to 1s. 4d. per lb., fair reddish, part broken, at 1s. 2d., and pickings 1s. per lb. Penang *Cloves* sold at 11d. for seven cases of fine bright, and thirty-one bales fair Zanzibar were bought in at 4½d. per lb. For delivery Zanzibar have fluctuated, but on Wednesday about 1,500 bales changed hands, including March-May 4½d. to 4½d., April-June 4½d. to 4¾d. to 4½d.

**STICKLAC.**—Sales have been made at 6½ 10s. per cwt.

**STRAX** in casks is quoted 51s. 6d., and in cases 57s. 6d. per cwt., c.i.f.

**WORMSEED.**—A new lot just arrived on the Hamburg market is quoted 62s. 6d. in ton quantities.

### London Drug-auctions.

The auctions to-day comprised new goods only, for which there was a very fair demand. Cape aloes was again slightly cheaper, while Curacaos were neglected, as was annatto, of which there is now a more plentiful supply. Asafetida was slow of sale at irregular, but easier, prices. Buchu tended easier, but for Sumatra benzoin full-up prices were paid. Loxa cinchona sold cheaply, and cascara sagrada under "forced sales" met with a further decline. Cardamoms were flat; fine qualities, however, were steady, but medium grades were easier. Japanese camphor was neglected, and gamboge was held at very high prices. Little of fine quality of Jamaica honey was offered, and the article was very dull. Ipecacuanha sold at unaltered rates compared with those paid privately, but the position of the article is regarded as strong, and a further advance would not be surprising. Menthol and peppermint oil again sold at lower rates without reserve. Rhubarb was steady, and for genuine grey Jamaica sarsaparilla firmer prices were paid. All the Tinnevely senna offered was of common quality, and tended easier. Beeswax was an unimportant article at this sale, and values showed no alteration. The following table shows the quantities of goods offered and sold, the asterisk applying to those purchased privately:

Offered		Sold		Offered		Sold	
Accroides .....	40	...	0	Ambergris .....	1	...	0
Aloes—				Annatto-seed .....	53	...	0
Cape .....	25	...	25	Antimony .....	50	...	50*
Curacao .....	17	...	0	Argol (Cape) .....	33	...	0



	Offered	Sold		Offered	Sold
Asafetida .....	496	86	Mimosa-bark .....	5	0
Balsam, Copaiba .....	1	0	Musk-seed .....	3	0
Benzoin—			Myrrh .....	1	1
Sumatra .....	72	16	Nux vomica .....	250	20
Buchu .....	22	3	Oil—		
Camphor (Jap. ref.) .....	95	2	aniseed, star .....	5	0
Canela alba .....	5	0	castor (E.I.) .....	45	0
Cannabis indica .....	19	0	cinnamon-leaf .....	3	0
Cardamoms .....	211	124	eucalyptus .....	41	0
Cascara sagrada .....	708	93	patchouli .....	16	0
Cashew-nuts .....	27	0	peppermint (Jap.) .....	10	10
Castorium .....	1	0	tea seed .....	3	0
Chillies (Jap.) .....	50	50*	Orange-peel .....	24	4
Cinchona .....	187	183	Puree .....	2	0
Coca-leaves .....	21	21	Rhubarb—		
Cubebs .....	30	0	China .....	22	8
Cumin-seed .....	40	0	Sarsaparilla .....	36	27
Dragon's blood .....	1	1	Scabiae .....	35	0
Elemi .....	20	0	Seedlac .....	9	0
Ergot .....	4	0	Senega .....	1	1
Gamtoze .....	15	0	Senna—		
Gum arabic .....	314	2	Alexandrian .....	3	0
Gunja .....	1	0	Tinnevely .....	313	310
Honey—			Sticklac .....	25	0
Jamaica .....	164	17	Tonka-beans .....	5	0
Insect-flowers .....	37	0	Turmeric .....	50	0
Ipecacuanha—			Wax (bees)—		
Cartagena .....	6	2	East Indian .....	58	15
Rio (Matto Grosso) .....	13	5	Jamaica .....	3	3
Rio (Minas) .....	6	0	Morocco .....	50	0
Kino .....	3	0	Nyassaland .....	1	0
Kola .....	9	1	Spanish .....	8	0
Lime-juice (conc.) .....			Zanzibar .....	4	4
W.I.) .....	1	1	Wax, Caruauba .....	13	0
Menthol .....	16	11	Wax, Japanese .....	25	0

ACCROIDES.—Forty bags of part blocky Australian gum were bought in at 35s. per cwt.

ALOES.—Cape aloes, although in much less supply, were again easier, fine hard bright firsts selling at 25s., and fair to good hard bright at from 23s. to 24s. 6d.; fair seconds, dullish, sold at from 21s. to 22s. 6d. per cwt. Of Curaçao 17 cases only were shown, including fine liver, for which 42s. 6d. per cwt. was wanted, 41s. being refused, and for good liver 38s. was refused. No other descriptions offered.

ANNATTO SEED in much better supply, and neglected. Among the parcels bought in were 20 good bright red Madras, slightly damp, at 7d. per lb., for which the highest bid was 4d.

ASAFETIDA.—A feature of the auction was the offering of over 400 packages of asafetida, comprising new arrivals from the Persian Gulf. The demand was poor on the whole, and the prices paid were irregular. Fine tear, of which about 2½ cwt. offered, was steady, while fine almondy block was about 2s. 6d. easier, as were also the lower grades. The following prices were paid: fine pale loose tear, 6l. 12s. 6d.; good loose pale tear, 5l. 7s. 6d.; very fine almondy and pinky block, 75s. to 80s.; good pinky almondy block, 67s. 6d.; good medium, part softish almondy, 52s. 6d.; good even pinky block, slightly stony, 50s.; fine almondy but soft, 44s.; loose brown sandy mixed with a fair proportion of gum, with a little fine almondy block, 24s. to 30s.; and loose odds and ends, 15s. to 16s. per cwt.

BENZON.—Sumatra, the only description offered, sold at full up to firmer prices in the case of fine almondy seconds, which brought 8l. 10s. per cwt., good seconds with slightly false packed ends brought 8l., and barely fair seconds sold at 5l. 17s. 6d. per cwt. Privately there has been a fair demand for good qualities, but medium and lower grades are somewhat neglected. The uprisings in Russia have curtailed the export business in this article.

BUCHU sold at about steady prices, fair green round, slightly stalky, realising 7½d., and for "ovals," slightly stalky, 5½d. to 6d. was paid. Good green slightly stalky "longs" were held at 1s. 6d.

CAMPHOR.—In auction 67 cases Japanese refined tablets were offered, of which two cases sold at 2s. 10d. per lb. for ½ oz. A further 28 cases of assorted sizes were bought in by another broker at 3s. 3d. Privately there has been some inquiry from the Continent, but we do not hear that business has resulted. There are sellers at 2s. 10½d. to 2s. 11d. for Japanese refined tablets. In English flowers,

small lots in second hands have been sold at 3s. 1d. per lb. Refined bells are quoted from Hamburg at 3s. 1½d. per lb., c.i.f., and flowers in 1-ton lots for prompt delivery at 2s. 11d. per lb.

CARDAMOMS were slow of sale, at steady to rather dearer rates for fine, and about 1d. per lb. easier for medium grades. The following prices were paid: Ceylon-Mysore, extra bold long pale, 2s. to 2s. 3d.; good bold pale, 1s. 5d.; bold and medium pale, 1s. 1d. to 1s. 2d.; medium pale, 10½d. to 11d.; yellowish ditto, 10d. to 11½d.; small pale, 7½d.; extra small, 6d.; splits, good, 8d.; brown and splits, 6d. to 7d.; fair boldish Aleppy 10d. to 10½d. Good Seed 11d. per lb.

CASCARA SAGRADA.—Some seven hundred packages were offered, of which 73 being without reserve sold at from 28s. to 30s. per cwt. gross for net, no discount, for fair bright new crop imported October 1904. These prices were from 1s. to 2s. lower compared with the prices paid in public sale under similar conditions. Of a new parcel of 635 bags fair bright quilly imported in January 1905, 20 bags sold at 27s. gross for net, no discount, and an offer of 26s. for further lots was refused.

CASTORUM.—A keg of damp seconds and thirds mixed (Hudson Bay) was bought in at 85s. per lb.

COCA-LEAVES rather dearer for Ceylon, good bright green of which sold at from 1s. 1d. to 1s. 2d. and 11½d. to 1s. for medium greenish.

DRAGON'S-BLOOD.—Fine bright lump, rather seedy, of which one case offered, was bought in at 16l., an offer of 12l. per cwt. being refused.

ELEMI.—Good white Manila gum was limited at 34s. per cwt.

GAMBOGE.—Very firm. A new arrival of 15 cases ex "Minnehaba" was offered, consisting of about equal parts of fair to good unsorted Siam and common Saigon mixed pipe, from which a bid of 18l. 10s. was refused in auction, 20l. being wanted.

HONEY.—Neglected. Fine qualities of Jamaica are extremely scarce. About fifteen packages of nice white set Jamaica were offered to-day, of which a few sold at 23s. per cwt. Thirteen packages sold without reserve at from 11s. 6d. to 17s. 6d. per cwt.

IPECACUANHA.—Dearer. Previous to the auctions fair sales of Rio had been made at 5s. 3d. per lb. for good, and it was said one broker had withdrawn from the market. Some 25 bales of Johore root have been also sold at 5s. per lb., principally for export, and the first-hand stock of this description is now cleared. In auction prices were from 4d. to 6d. per lb. dearer than those paid at the last public sale, but unaltered compared with those paid privately. About half a dozen bales Matto Grosso sold at the all-round figure of 5s. 3d. per lb., this including good plump to less so, and wiry bright root. These were the only cheap lots, the remainder being held firm at from 5s. 4d. to 5s. 6d. per lb. For Minas 5s. was wanted. Of Cartagena ipecac. 6 bags offered, of which two sold privately at 5s. per lb. The stocks in the Crutched Friars warehouse on February 1 amounted to 243 packages of Matto Grosso, 110 of Minas and Johore, and 35 of Cartagena, compared with 604 of Matto Grosso, Minas, and Johore, and 163 of Cartagena, at the corresponding period of last year.

LIME-JUICE.—A hoghead of concentrated West Indian sold at 13l. 10s. per pipe.

MENTHOL.—About 6d. per lb. lower in auction, 11 cases of Kobayashi crystals selling without reserve at from 7s. 3d. to 7s. 5d. per lb. Previous to the auction 7s. 9d. had been paid for small lots of Kobayashi on the spot.

MYRRH.—Very scarce. A case of good pale sorts from Bombay sold at 90s. per cwt.

NUX VOMICA.—Freer arrivals of late have brought about lower prices recently; fair Madras seed sold at 10s. 6d. per cwt.

OIL, CINNAMON-LEAF.—Two cases of Ceylon were limited at 2½d. per oz.

OIL, EUCALYPTUS, containing 68 per cent. of cineol, was limited at 1s. 2d., and 62 per cent. at 1s. 1d. per lb.

OIL, PATCHOULI.—Special quality of Fisher's brand was bought in at 1s. 6d., and fair at 1s. 4d. per oz.



**OIL, PEPPERMINT.**—Privately a small business has been done in American H.G.H. at 16s. 10½d. per lb., and a good brand of Wayne County oil is offered at 14s. 9d. spot, and the same figure, "c.i.f.," is also asked for another equally good brand. Japanese dementholised has been sold privately at 4s. 6d. on the spot, but in auction prices dropped several pence, 10 cases of Suzuki brand realising 4s. to 4s. 1d. per lb., without reserve.

**ORANGE PEEL.**—Slow of sale. Fair bright Maltese strip was obtainable at from 9d. to 10d. per lb.

**RHUEARB.**—Steady. Two cases of round and flat Shensi pickings of good colour sold at 1s. 5d. per lb. Good heavy round pinky Shensi trimming root is worth 3s. 3d. to 3s. 6d., but no sales were made publicly. For bold flat Shensi 2s. 6d. was refused. Of High-dried, 6 cases were offered, and sold at 1s. to 1s. 1d. per lb. for small to bold flat with three-quarters good pinky fracture.

**SARSAPARILLA.**—Jamaica was quite 1d. per lb. dearer for grey, 1s. 2d. being paid for a sound roughish string of 12 bales, and 1s. 1d. for sea-damaged. Two other bales of grey Jamaica from another catalogue brought 1s. 1d. per lb., and 8 bales Native sold at from 6d. to 6½d. for ordinary dull mixed and sea-damaged.

**SENEGAL.**—A bale of fair flavour, but partly mouldy and country-damaged, sold at 2s. 5d. per lb., without reserve. Privately, there are sellers of sound at 2s. 9½d. per lb., net, on the spot.

**SENNA.**—Practically all the offerings consisted of very common Tinnevely leaf, which sold at from 1d. to 1½d. per lb. for small ordinary speckly leaf.

**WAX, BEES'.**—Jamaica was scarce to-day, only 3 packages being offered, of which 2 sold at 7l. 2s. 6d. for ordinary and 7l. 10s. for fair. Of East Indian, 9 cases Bombay sold at from 5l. 12s. 6d. to 5l. 17s. 6d. per cwt. for good to fine, and a further 6 cases at 5l. 12s. 6d. for unsorted. Zanzibar is scarce, only 4 cases being offered and sold at 6l. 15s., subject, for slightly drossy and wormy.

**WAX, JAPANESE,** was bought in at 54s. per cwt.

### Heavy Chemicals.

There is nothing of very special moment to be recorded regarding the heavy-chemical market. The all-round demand continues to be on the whole of a satisfactory nature, and values keep steady and are without important fluctuation.

**ALKALI-PRODUCE.**—A slight improvement in demand for main products is noticeable, otherwise there is nothing to record.

**SULPHATE OF AMMONIA** has advanced again, and with continuation of firm tone still higher figures seem quite probable. Nearest values at present are: Beckton 13l. 10s., Beckton terms 13l. 3s. 9d., London 13l. 10s., Leith 13l. 5s., and Hull 13l. 3s. 9d. to 13l. 5s.

**BENZOLS** are dull, with declining tendency: 90-per-cent. at 10d. and 50-per-cent. at 8d. per gal. Aniline oil is steadier at 5d. to 5½d. per lb., as are also aniline salts at 4½d. to 5d. per lb.

**BARIUM-PRODUCTS,** with continued good demand and tendency towards scarce side, are very firm and likely to continue so. Some values show an advance. Chloride of barium, ordinary refined crystals in large casks 6l. to 6l. 15s. per ton, and in bags 5l. 15s. to 6l. 10s. Blanc fixe, pure precipitated sulphate of barium, in paste form, 6l. to 6l. 10s. The pure Blanc fixe dried is in brisk request and very firm at 8l. 10s. to 9l. Mineral sulphate of barytes ground, 40s. to 100s., in accordance with quality, quantity, and package. Mineral carbonate of barytes (witherte is not in over-abundant supply, and quotations are only nominal, and vary according to percentage and delivery. Sulphide of barium, crude calcined, 70 to 75 per cent., 4l. 5s. to 4l. 15s. per ton in 7 to 8 cwt. casks. Hydrate of barium crystals in increased request at 13l. to 14l. per ton in 6 to 7 cwt. casks. Fused barium hydrate about 56 to 60 per cent. BaO, owing to heavier demand is in short supply; value firm at 13l. to 14l. per ton. Nitrate of barium continues to maintain advancing tendency; crystals 17l. 10s. to 18l. per ton, and powdered 17l. 15s. to 18l. 5s.

### Liverpool Drug-market.

*Liverpool, February 1.*

**ARSENIC.**—The price is very firm at 12l. 10s. per ton.  
**CASTOR OIL.**—In the absence of further arrivals, price continues very firm, and steady sales of good seconds Calcutta have been made at 2½d. to 2½d. per lb., according to quantity, and higher prices are anticipated. For shipment, 2½d. is still wanted. The price is well maintained owing to the bad

reports of the seed-crop in India. This has also caused shippers to advance their price for first-pressure French to 24l. per ton, f.o.b. Marseilles, sales on the spot being made at 2½d. per lb.

**CHILIAN BEESWAX.**—Ten bags sold at 7l. 7s. 6d. and 2 bags at 8l. per cwt.

**ERGOT.**—Russian offers from Hamburg at 1s. 5d. per lb., c.i.f.

**HONEY (CHILIAN).**—Sixty-two barrels Pile 1 have been sold at 25s. 6d. per cwt.

**KOLA-NUTS.**—Fourteen bags sold at 2½d. per lb.

**SULPHATE OF COPPER** is firm at 22l. 10s. to 22l. 15s. per ton.

### German Drug-market.

*Hamburg, January 31.*

Business is still quiet, and there is not much doing on our drug-market at present.

**AGAR-AGAR** is a little firmer at 270m. per 100 kilos. for current quality.

**ALOES.**—Cape is dull and lower at 60m. per 100 kilos.

**CAMPHOR.**—Refined is very firm at 700m. per 100 kilos.

**CANTHARIDES** are firm and scarce at 10m. per kilo.

**CARNAUBA WAX** is very firm and dearer at from 265m. to 300m. per 100 kilos., according to quality.

**CASTOR OIL** is firm at 48½m. per 100 kilos. for first-pressing in barrels.

**CHINESE WOOD OIL** is steady at 50½m. per 100 kilos.

**CITRIC ACID** is firm at 222m. per 100 kilos.

**COD-LIVER OIL** is unaltered at 160m. per barrel for non-congealing oil.

**CORIANDEER-SEED** is dear, but slow of sale at 60m. to 65m. per 100 kilos.

**CONDURANGO** is lower at 55 m. per 100 kilos.

**ERGOT** is quiet at 315m. to 310m. per 100 kilos.

**MYRRH** is scarce at 190m. per 100 kilos.

**LYCOPodium** is scarce and advancing, and 800m. per 100 kilos. is asked.

**MENTHOL** is very dull, and can be bought at 16½m. per kilo.

**PEPPERMINT OIL** is neglected. H.G.H. is quoted 16½m. per lb., and Japanese dementholised 11m. to 10½m. per kilo.

**SENEGAL** is lower on the spot at 600m. per 100 kilos.

**SPERMACEET** is very firm at 230m. per 100 kilos.

**STAR-ANISEED OIL** is 11½m. to 12m. per kilo.

### Arrivals.

The following drugs, chemicals, etc., have arrived at the principal ports of the United Kingdom from January 26 to February 1, inclusive: Acid, acetic (@ Fredrikstad), 100 cbs.; acid, citric (@ Bordeaux), 24; acid, picric (@ Hamburg), 110 cks.; acid, tartaric (@ Bari), 4; annatto seed (@ Madras), 5; arsenic (@ Oporto), 111 brls.; bromine (@ Hamburg), 167 cs.; buchu (@ Cape Town), 64; Calabar beans (@ W.C. Africa), 26; canary seed (@ Hamburg), 500; cardamoms, 68; cassia fistula, 32; chloral hydrate (@ Hamburg), 9; cinchona (@ W.C. South America), 54 serons; clove stems (@ Hamburg), 244; cochineal (@ Las Palmas), 19; cream of tartar, (@ Rotterdam) 12, (@ Bordeaux) 97; dragon's blood, 3; fenugreek seed (@ Casablanca), 100; gum arabic (@ Alexandria), 218 bgs.; gum, tragacanth (@ Bushire), 385 bls. 812 cs.; gum, unenumerated, (@ Bombay) 592 pkgs., (@ Persia) 547 cs. 101 bgs.; honey, (@ Jamaica) 10, (@ New York) 25; iodine (@ Valparaiso), 145 brls.; lemon juice (@ Messina, 20 pps.; lime-juice (@ Dominica), 32 hlds. 9 cks.; liquorice-juice (@ Bordeaux), 58 cs.; liquorice root (@ Persia), 929 bls. *in tr.*; mandrake root (@ Baltimore), 24; manna (@ Palermo), 5 × ½ cs.; mastich, 10; nux vomica, (@ Coconada) 535 bgs., (@ Bombay) 160; oil, castor (@ Leghorn), 20 cs.; oil, cod-liver, (@ Bergen) 10, (@ Aalsund) 10; oil, eucalyptus (@ Melbourne), 141 cs.; oil, lemon grass (@ Bombay), 50 cs.; oil, olivum, 30; opium, (@ Bushire) 10 cs., (@ Smyrna) 27 cs., (@ Constantinople) 4; orange-peel (@ Seville), 11 pps.; potash chlorate (@ Gothenburg), 60 cs.; quillaia (@ Hamburg), 24; saffron (@ Valencia), 2 cs.; sarsaparilla (@ Hamburg), 19; seedlac (@ Karachi), 53; senna (@ Bombay), 23; senna, (@ Tuticorin) 336 bls., (@ Alexandria) 75; vanilla (@ Bordeaux) 8 cs.; wax, carnauba (@ Hamburg), 44.

### Liquorice-root.

The liquorice-root trade in Mesopotamia is the subject of a despatch from Major T. S. Newmarch, Political Resident in Turkish Arabia, in which he says there are about five thousand Arabs earning a livelihood by digging the root. The collections are made chiefly in the winter months, when the leaves have fallen and the branches have dried up. The quantity collected does not exceed a maximum of 10,000 tons per annum. The United States takes about 85 per cent. of the total. The industry in Mesopotamia was first organised on an important scale ten years ago, but the company which has taken up the manufacture in America of liquorice paste now controls the collection of liquorice-root in Mesopotamia. The average value of the root at the time of export from Basrah is about 5l. per ton.



## "Patents" in New Zealand.

THERE is but little progress to report as to the regulations requiring after June the formulæ of patent medicines to be printed on the labels. We have given full details in the issues of *THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST* for January 7, 14, and 21. There is apparently a want of agreement among chemists as to whether the regulations, if enforced, would be a blessing or a curse, some meetings of chemists carrying resolutions in favour of the regulations and others against. There is a disposition among still another section of the trade to await further developments before expressing an opinion on the matter. The Chambers of Commerce have taken up the subject, and their resolutions have been uniformly against the regulations. A point that has been raised is that the Act provides that the disclosure of the composition of patent medicines is to be made at or prior to the sale, and it is held that, although this is really a legal opinion that has not been tested in the courts, to demand that the composition shall be printed on the label goes beyond the words of the statute. The Minister of Health has declared his intention to modify the regulations, the latest information being that he will require the formula of any medicine to be submitted to the Board of Health confidentially before the medicine can be sold. But he refuses to modify the requirement that when a patent medicine contains any poison the fact must be stated on the label. He justifies his position in the interests of infant life. Those pharmacists who favour the regulations apparently do so in the expectation that the latter will decrease the sale of imported medicines and give back to chemists a considerable share of the business which they consider has been lost to pharmacists by the inroads of storekeepers. While it is probable that many proprietors of well-known medicines would at first decline to publish their formulæ, it is by no means certain that they would maintain this attitude. The fact that a formula had been submitted to the Board of Health, and that the medicine was allowed to be sold, would, it is thought, be a valuable testimonial. The use that could be made of it is shown in a circular issued by the Chamberlain Medicine Co. This company a year or two ago found its cough-mixture included on the list of proprietary medicines alleged to contain poison published by the Pharmacy Board of New South Wales, and the medicine was, at the request of the company, submitted to analysis, and was found to be free from narcotics. Much capital has been made of the fact that this is the only cough-medicine in Australia officially declared free from narcotics.

Seeing that other dealers in proprietary medicines outnumber registered pharmacists by four to one at a moderate computation, it is incredible that any regulations would be allowed to stand which would transfer to the pharmaceutical minority a section of the business of the non-pharmaceutical majority.

### STATEMENTS BY THE MINISTER OF PUBLIC HEALTH.

Deputations have waited on Sir Joseph Ward, Minister of Public Health, and have elicited from him several new statements. On December 1, at Christchurch, he repeated to a deputation what he had said at Dunedin. He would undertake to see that a definition of proprietary medicines is made and the owners of such protected. He was prepared to consider a request that medicines manufactured in the Colony by qualified pharmacists, and all proprietary medicines manufactured in the Colony, should be exempted.

The Wellington deputation of December 9 was reported in the *C. & D.*, January 21.

### RESOLUTIONS FROM CHAMBERS OF COMMERCE.

The Wellington Chamber of Commerce on December 6 passed the following resolution:

That the extensive use of proprietary medicines throughout New Zealand is a practical proof of the necessity for these household conveniences; that restrictive measures concerning patent medicines suggested in the regulations of the Health Department are not supported by sound reason; that such interference will only produce confusion and the upsetting of an established custom. This meeting

therefore expresses the hope that the Government will abandon its intention of bringing the regulations into force. The New Plymouth Chamber of Commerce on December 7 resolved—

That in the opinion of this Chamber the regulations made under the Public Health Act of 1900, and to come into force in April next [should be June], whereby the contents, with their exact proportion, of patent and proprietary medicines sold in the Colony have to be disclosed, should be cancelled, as its operation will cause hardship, loss, and expense to the colonists of New Zealand, and unnecessarily interfere with the rights of the proprietors of such medicines.

The Dunedin Master Printers', Photographers', and Bookbinders' Association on November 22 passed a resolution—

That if the regulations requiring sellers of patent medicines to print the formulas of such medicines on packets and bottles are carried into effect, the printing and allied trades will be seriously affected, and much loss of employment by their workpeople will result.

The Association urged the Government to annul the drastic restrictions imposed by the regulations.

### CHEMISTS' MEETINGS.

A special meeting of the Central Pharmaceutical Association was held at Wellington on December 2, when Messrs. Mee and Wilton reported on their interview with Dr. Mason, chief of the Health Department. The doctor informed the deputation that the Department is determined to do something in the way of suppressing many of the notoriously injurious patent nostrums and cure-alls that are being sold throughout the Colony, and, as medical adviser, he considered he would not be doing his duty if he did not move in the direction of protecting the public. Dr. Mason said he was willing to receive suggestions or information from chemists in regard to the regulations, and he also expressed the opinion that some modifications might be made. One of the chemists at the meeting said the regulations ought to be strongly opposed, but several members spoke freely in favour of the Government measure.

A meeting of sixteen Auckland chemists was held on December 15, when a resolution against the regulations was passed by 12 votes to 4.

### A LEGAL OPINION.

The point which we have noted, that the regulations are *ultra vires* because they extended the words of the statute, "patent medicines," to a number of articles that are not patented, has brought the following legal opinion, mentioned in the "Evening Post" of December 8:

The section empowers the Governor to make regulations "requiring the ingredients of patent medicines to be disclosed at, or prior to, the sale thereof," and the regulations provide that "all patent medicines imported into or offered for sale in the Colony shall be required to have the contents, with their exact proportions, set out in English upon a label affixed on the bottle, box, or container." No doubt a disclosure of the contents at the time of importation is a disclosure "prior to the sale," but we presume the ground of the opinion to be that the disclosure contemplated by the section is a disclosure to the individual purchaser, and that in the phrase "at or prior to the sale" the word "prior" cannot be reasonably taken as including the whole of past time, but must be limited, on account of its conjunction with "at," to the period occupied by the purchase, or at most to that occupied by the negotiations which preceded it. In the case of a merchant importing a stock which he has purchased in London, it certainly seems clear that the section gives no power to interfere with him until he proceeds to sell, and therefore the printing on the wrappers at the time of importation cannot possibly be within the scope of the Governor's powers. If it were not so, then a consumer importing for his own use would be equally subject with the merchant to the regulations, and a section which authorised certain restrictions in case of a sale would be held to cover a case in which no sale was either effected or intended; which, surely, as Euclid says, is absurd.

### THE REVENUE FROM PROPRIETARY MEDICINES.

The imports of proprietary medicines into New Zealand in the course of the year amount to over 40,000*l.* in value, yielding a revenue from Customs-duties of over 7,000*l.* In addition to that, it has been estimated that the newspaper-advertising of patent-medicine proprietors in the Colony amounts to at least 25,000*l.*; other expenses bringing the total expenditure up to a good round sum.



## Australasian News.

*Communicated by the Australian Staff of "The Chemist and Druggist."*

The fullest information regarding the Australasian drug-trade and pharmacy is given in "The Chemist and Druggist of Australasia," a journal established by the proprietors of this journal, and published in Melbourne, Vic. Copies of the monthly issue can be obtained at 6d. each, post free, from the office of "The Chemist and Druggist," 42 Cannon Street, London, E.C.

Note.—"The Chemist and Druggist" is regularly supplied by order to all the members of the following, among other societies:

Central Pharmaceutical Association, N.Z.  
Canterbury (N.Z.) Pharmaceutical Association.  
Otago Pharmaceutical Association, N.Z.  
Pharmaceutical Society of New South Wales.  
Pharmaceutical Society of Queensland.  
Pharmaceutical Society of South Australia.  
Pharmaceutical Society of Tasmania.  
Pharmaceutical Society of Western Australia.

### General.

**DISCIPLINARY POWERS.**—In view of the discussion started in England the following facts as to the discipline of chemists in Australasia may be of interest. It should be noted at the outset, however, that the conditions of the administration of the Pharmacy Acts, and in some cases the Poisons Acts, are not strictly comparable with those in the United Kingdom. In Australasia the administration of the Acts is placed in the hands of a body appointed in the first instance for three years by the Government, and afterwards elected by the votes of all the registered chemists, and not by a section as in Great Britain and Ireland. The Pharmacy Acts of all the States give power to remove from the register the names of those who have committed sundry offences. In the New South Wales Act of 1897 power granted under the Poisons Act of 1876 is continued, but has apparently only been exercised in one case. In the instance referred to a registered pharmacist was found guilty of being concerned in a case of malpractice, and was sentenced to a period of penal servitude. His name was struck off, not by the Pharmacy Board, but by the Governor-in-Council on the recommendation of the Pharmacy Board. When he had completed his sentence he made application for reinstatement, and after the lapse of a period of something like two years his appeal was granted and his name was restored. The discipline clause of the New South Wales Act of 1897 is as follows:

The Governor [*i.e.*, Governor-in-Council] may direct the name of any person who has at any time before or after the commencement of this Act been convicted of any offence which, in the opinion of the Governor, renders that person unfit to carry on the business of a pharmacist, to be removed from the register.

In the New Zealand Pharmacy Act of 1898 the wording is almost identical. The Queensland Act of 1884 has a similar provision. In the Victorian Act, as consolidated in 1890, section 85 reads as follows:

If any registered pharmaceutical chemist be convicted of any offence under this part of this Act or of any felony or misdemeanour which in the opinion of the Board renders him unfit to be on the pharmaceutical register of Victoria, the Board may, subject to the approval of the Governor-in-Council, order the name of such person to be erased from such register, and such erasure shall be a disqualification as a registered pharmaceutical chemist within the meaning of this part of this Act, and it shall be the duty of the Board to erase such name accordingly.

The South Australian Act is the only one which gives the power direct to the Board. Section 17 of the Act of 1891 reads:

If any pharmaceutical chemist be convicted of any offence which, in the opinion of the Board, renders him unfit to be on the register, it shall be the duty of the Board to erase such name accordingly.

The Western Australian Act gives power to the Council (as the "Board" is called in this State) to "apply" to the Governor, who "may" order the name to be erased.

### New South Wales.

**PATENT-MEDICINES BILL.**—Mr. William M. Daley, member of the Legislative Assembly, has obtained leave to intro-

duce a Bill which will give the Board of Health power to regulate the sale of all patent medicines, quack medicines, and medical appliances advertised or offered for sale or exchange in New South Wales. The Board will also have the power to order seizure and confiscation of all such medicines and appliances if deemed necessary by them, and may prohibit the sale or exchange of such medicines and the advertising of them under heavy penalties. The measure did not reach its first reading in the Session last year, but Mr. Daley will be glad to receive assistance and suggestions from chemists and others.

**P.A.T.A.**—Among the additions to the P.A.T.A. of New South Wales which will interest chemists in the Old Country are Bate's salve, Carrick's liquid peptonoids, and the Maltine preparations.

**THE FIRST DISTILLER OF EUCALYPTUS.**—Mr. J. H. Maiden, Government Botanist, has recently described before the Linnean Society of N.S.W. four new species of *Eucalyptus*. One of these is named *E. Consideniana*, a tree which has been under observation for some years, but has not been previously described. The author says it may be a hybrid between *E. Sieberiana* and *E. piperita*. The tree is named in honour of First-Assistant Surgeon D. Considen, who in a letter dated November 18, 1788, to Sir Joseph Banks, wrote: "We have a large peppermint-tree which is equal, if not superior, to our English peppermint. I have sent you a specimen of it. If there is any merit in applying these and many other simples to the benefit of the poor wretches here, I certainly claim it, being the first who discovered and recommended it." At this time a bottle of eucalyptus oil was sent to Sir Joseph Banks by Governor Phillip.

### New Zealand.

**THE CUSTOMS DECISIONS** following were gazetted with others during the month:

Dental rubber (unvulcanised), for making artificial gums: as n.o.e., free.

"Fyreicide" fire-extinguisher, a chemical powder in metal tube; as chemicals n.o.e., 20 per cent.

### Victoria.

**HONEY AS A SIDE-LINE.**—"Be(e) Wise" is the title of a little folded circular issued by Mr. Frederick Cheshire, Brighton, Vic., in which he gives notes of the use of honey as a natural food and as a medicine. One paragraph of the circular reads: "A thousand pounds for sale at Cheshire's Pharmacy. Commercial rates. In all quantities, from a sixpenny bottle up to a sixty-pound tin for 18s. 9d.; 32d. a pound." Mr. Cheshire tells us that this circular has been the means of selling fourteen sixty-pound tins of the honey in about eight weeks, and has also promoted a steady but slower sale for honey as an everyday side-line.

## Canadian Notes.

**MR. ROBERT INGLIS**, chemist and druggist (G.B.), formerly with Messrs. Duncan, Flockhart & Co., of Edinburgh, has been engaged to take charge of the dispensing department of the Pulford Drug Co., Winnipeg, Man.

**THE PULFORD DRUG Co.** at Winnipeg is to be changed to the Pulford-Leonard Drug Co. Mr. A. R. Leonard, the new member of the firm, will have charge of the finances, and Mr. Walter Pulford will be president and general manager.

**PROPOSED AMALGAMATION.**—At a meeting of retail druggists in Montreal on January 12, it was decided to summon a further meeting to make arrangements for affiliating with the Dominion Retail Merchants' Association. The meeting was held at the College of Pharmacy, and the decision arrived at was the outcome of their consideration of the question whether they should not unite with the Drug Section of the Retail Merchants' Druggists' Association of Ontario. Addresses were delivered by representatives of the Wholesale and Retail Druggists' Association of Ontario, impressing on the meeting the desirability of a closer relationship between the various sections of the trade. The Retail Merchants' Association, which is composed of all classes of retail merchants, and is organised for the purpose of protecting the commercial interests of the retail trade, was represented by Mr. E. M. Trowern, who explained its aims and objects.



## South African News.

(From our own Correspondents.)

Note.—"The Chemist and Druggist" is regularly supplied by order to all the members of all the Pharmaceutical Societies in British South Africa, viz.:

South African Pharmaceutical Association.  
Pharmaceutical Society of Cape Colony.  
Natal Pharmaceutical Society.  
Transvaal Pharmaceutical Society.  
Rhodesia Pharmaceutical Society.  
Northern District Chemists' Association.  
Pharmaceutical Society of Orange River Colony.

### Cape Colony.

**THE BASUTO "DOCTOR."**—Marthinus Louw, who has been charged with practising as a doctor without a licence, was on January 7 by the Wynberg Magistrate found guilty.

**NOTIFIABLE DISEASES.**—Whooping-cough and measles.—The Cape Town medical officer of health has recommended that whooping-cough and measles should be made notifiable diseases, and the City Council has agreed.

**DRUGS, PURE AND OTHERWISE.**—Mr. Charles F. Juritz, senior Government analyst, in his report for the third quarter of 1904, mentions that six samples of iron pills were analysed, four bought at Cape Town and two at Woodstock. One of the former was 13 per cent. deficient in ferrous carbonate, and one of the latter 65 per cent. deficient: a fine of 1*l.* was imposed in respect to this one. The Controller of Customs sent two samples of malt-extract to the analyst, to ascertain whether they contained arsenic or not, but they were free from it. Samples of cream of tartar, vinegar essence, tr. camph. co., sandalwood oil, and compound liquorice powder purchased at Indwe were found to be genuine.

### Transvaal.

**THE PHARMACY BOARD.**—The first meeting of the new Board was held in the First Volksraad Chamber, Pretoria, on January 4, in accordance with Section 10 of the new Ordinance. Dr. Davies, D.S.O., President of the Medical Council, occupied the chair. Mr. J. R. Jones, Pretoria



MR. J. H. DINWOODIE.

(Government nominee), proposed, and Mr. B. Owen Jones, Mayor of Boksburg, seconded, that Mr. J. H. Dinwoodie, of Johannesburg, should be President during his membership of the Board (three years). This was carried unanimously. There was no other business before the meeting.

The Colonial Secretary then invited all the members of the Medical Council and Pharmacy Board to luncheon in the Grand Hotel, where he was supported on his right and left by the two Presidents. In the afternoon the Colonial Secretary again met the Pharmacy Board in the Raadzaal, and formally handed over the working of the Pharmacy Law, and all affairs appertaining to chemists and druggists, to the Board. In a recent issue we gave some particulars respecting the career of the first President of the Transvaal Pharmacy Board, Mr. J. H. Dinwoodie, whose portrait we now give. Mr. Dinwoodie served his apprenticeship with Mr. John Wm. Sutherland, managing director of Frazer & Green, Ltd., Glasgow, who was then in Dumfries. Mr. Dinwoodie qualified in January 1889, and afterwards had good experience in the West-end of London. He went to South Africa in 1893, and has been most of the time since in business for himself at Bree and Wilhelm Streets, Johannesburg. He was attached to the R.A.M.C. with the Natal Field Force from October 1899 to February 1901, and was presented with the war medal by Lord Roberts at a parade of troops at Johannesburg in October 1904.



THE EXHIBIT OF MESSRS. BURROUGHS WELLCOME & CO. AT THE CAPE TOWN EXHIBITION.

## India and the East.

(News from our own Correspondents.)

**COMPANY NEWS.**—A petition for the winding-up of the Sirdar's Carbonic-acid Gas Co., Ltd., Bombay, has been presented to the Bombay High Court.—There are persistent rumours that the old-established business of Messrs. Ball Hobson & Co., Umballa, is about to be wound up.

**BUSINESS CHANGES.**—Mr. Alec. Charles Hayley has been admitted a partner in the firm of Messrs. Charles P. Hayley & Co., citronella-oil exporters, Galle, from January 1, and Mr. Stuart Pickering Hayley holds the firm's power of attorney.—Owing to the increase of business and want of accommodation, the Colombo Apothecaries' Co., of Ceylon, has engaged premises in Prince Street and York Street.

**THORIANITE IN CEYLON.**—The "Times of Ceylon" states that copies of Mr. A. K. Coomaraswamy's report on thorianite are now available at the Record Office, Ceylon. The report is an elaborate one dealing with the discovery of the mineral by Mr. W. D. Holland at Bambarabotuwa, how the mineral is obtainable, the prospect of further discoveries, etc. Professor Dunstan's report on the occurrence of thorium-bearing minerals in Ceylon is also appended, as is



a plan of the district where thorianite is to be found. This new mineral is one of the richest known in thoria, of which it contains more than 75 per cent. uncombined with silica.

**CEYLON EXPORTS.**—The completed returns of the exports of cardamoms from Ceylon for the twelve months ending December 31, 1904, show that 933,078 lbs. were shipped, compared with 861,722 lbs. in 1903 and 615,922 lbs. in 1902. In 1904 the United Kingdom received 413,890 lbs., India 345,928 lbs., Germany 115,446 lbs., U.S.A. 20,336 lbs., and among the smaller amounts we notice 117 lbs. shipped to Australia, to which country, it will be recollected, a special commissioner was sent to push the sale of cardamoms. Less and less cinchona is being shipped, the 1904 figures being only 130,968 lbs., against 170,565 lbs. in 1903. Citronella oil was shipped to the extent of 1,133,068 lbs., or 105,000 lbs. more than in 1903, and of cinnamon bark and leaf oil 51,748 oz. was shipped, against 80,992 oz. Of the citronella oil the United Kingdom received 514,007 lbs. and the United States 459,211 lbs.

**INDIAN TURPENTINE.**—A correspondent, writing to "Capital" on this subject, says, among other things, that the time has arrived for the Government to withdraw from the turpentine and colophony business, and to make the enterprise over to private parties. It has been successfully demonstrated that a remunerative industry can be established in India, and there ought to be no difficulty in finding a private directorate to take over the manufacture. The North Indian pines have been proved to yield qualities of resin and spirit of turpentine quite good enough to create an increasing demand for them, both in Europe and in India. It is doubtful, however, if the Indian products will ever come up to the standard of the best qualities of the European and American articles. At the same time, though pure European and American resin and turpentine are undoubtedly superior, a great deal of adulteration has crept into the trade of late years, and this is certainly a point in favour of India.



MESSRS. J. GOSNELL & SON'S DISPLAY AT THE BOMBAY EXHIBITION.

**SALE OF POISONS IN CEYLON.**—At a meeting of the Colombo Municipal Council at Colombo, on January 10, a letter was read from the medical officer of health on the illicit sale of poisons in Colombo. It appears the officer instructed one of the inspectors to purchase poisons from some of the unlicensed *boutiques* which are reported to deal in these substances. The inspector sent an ordinary coolie into one of these unlicensed shops with a slip of paper on which was written the Sinhalese word for arsenic, with the result that he obtained over an ounce. The officer suggested that the law should be so framed as to make it illegal to *possess* poisons without a licence. If this were done, then a raid could be made upon all these suspected *boutiques*, and all poisons found could be confiscated and the possessors punished. The Council ultimately resolved that the medical officer be asked to report on the Poisons Ordinance, intimating what further provisions should be added.

## American Notes.

(From our Correspondent.)

**A CHICAGO BLUEBEARD.**—A man named Hoch, living at Chicago, is believed to have caused the death of thirteen women by poison. A white powder, which is believed to have caused six deaths, has been submitted to analysis.

**THE DRUGGISTS OF GREATER NEW YORK** are indignant because the Elberfeld Farbenfabriken has recently caused an article to appear in the Sunday "New York American and Journal" declaring 90 per cent. of the pharmacists of the city to be substitutors and adulterators.

**A.P.H.A.**—The Council of the American Pharmaceutical Association has just reported that 231 new members were elected in the Association during the calendar year 1904. This is the best record that has so far ever been made, and augurs well for the future of America's leading pharmaceutical body.

**DUTY ON BORAX MIXTURE.**—The Board of U.S. General Appraisers overruled a protest filed by the Charles E. Scholes Co. regarding the rate of duty applicable to a mechanical mixture of borax with 10 per cent. of carbonate of soda. The collector's assessment at the rate of 5c. per lb. will stand; the importer contended for duty at the rate of only 2c. per lb.

**THE CALIFORNIAN SCANDAL.**—Reference has been made in this correspondence to an investigation begun some months ago of the California Board of Pharmacy. The Board was charged with having dishonestly favoured the candidates of certain pharmaceutical schools, and also with misappropriation of funds. The investigating Commission appointed by the Governor has now reported that while the Board is innocent of both charges, it has been indiscreet and possibly extravagant.

**CHEMISTS' LIQUOR-LICENCES.**—A Bill has been introduced into the State Legislature of Michigan which will give the Examining Board (the "Board of Pharmacy") control over the issue of liquor-licences to druggists. If any pharmacist shall be proved in court guilty of violating the regular Liquor Law, the Board may revoke his registration as such and drive him out of business. A similar Act has been upon the statute-book of Massachusetts for some years, and has worked admirably.

**SCOTS IN BUFFALO.**—It is a source of pride to the druggists of Buffalo, New York, that two of their number have recently been elected respectively Presidents of the two legislative bodies of the city—the Board of Councilmen and the Board of Aldermen. During the coming year Mr. Thomas Stoddart will preside over the deliberations of the former body, and Mr. Neil McEachren over those of the latter.

**OFFICIAL PHARMACISTS.**—A Bill is before the national Congress in Washington in which the druggists of the country are very much interested. It is intended to give the pharmacists in the navy the rank, pay, and privileges of promotion which other officers in the same grade enjoy. There is at present a discrimination which is most unfair and inexcusable. It is proposed, for instance, to render it possible for a naval pharmacist, who has the rank of a warrant officer, to enjoy the privileges which other warrant officers enjoy of a promotion to commissioned rank and pay after six years' service.

**FOOD AND DRUGS ADULTERATION.**—Two measures are now before Congress at Washington dealing with this matter. One is the McCumber Bill in the Senate and the other the Hepburn Bill in the House of Representatives. The latter is restricted entirely to pharmaceutical medicaments; the former goes farther, and includes in the definition of "drug" practically everything used in the treatment of disease. Inasmuch as the Pharmacopœia is the only recognised standard for drugs, and in view of the fact that extra-pharmacopœial medicaments are made to conform to no requirements whatever, the drug-trade of the country fears that the McCumber Bill would result in chaos and injustice. The various national Pharmaceutical Associations are accordingly fighting the McCumber Bill and supporting the Hepburn measure.